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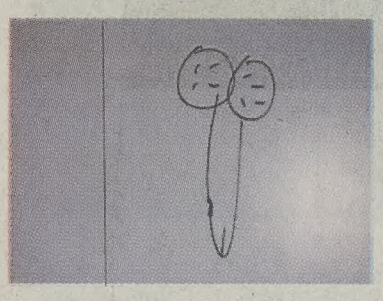
STUDENTS STEAL SIGNS, URINATE IN ELEVATORS, VANDALIZE WALLS

Thousands of dollars in weekend Atwater damages prompt community conversations

COURTESY OF FACILITIES



COURTESY PHOTO

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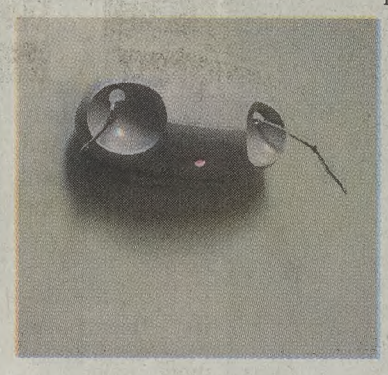

RILEY BOARD/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

COURTESY OF FACILITIES

Broken bottles and trash in Atwater B, phalluses drawn in an elevator, ripped and stolen signs in Allen Hall, torn-down and broken emergency lights in Starr Hall, and urine in an elevator of Atwater B are just some of the deliberate damages done to residence halls by students so far this fall. Some significant property damage has occurred every weekend of this school year.

By RILEY BOARD
News Editor

Urination in elevators, broken beer bottles in stairwells and ripped-off door signs in Atwater A and B, totaling more than $2,000 in damages, have prompted conversations about community respect, culture and responsibility among suite residents and staff.

Facilities Supervisor Wayne Hall began noticing consistent and severe damages in the two upperclassman residence halls, well-known on campus as popular weekend-night social spots, during the first three weekends of the school year. Hall and Custodial Supervisor Daniel Celik, who oversees the buildings' custodial staff, brought the damages to the attention of Atwater Commons Residence Director (CRD) Esther Thomas.

"This is our house," Celik told The Campus. "This is our life. We're here every day. We need folks to realize that Atwater is our house, that elevator is part of our house. How would you like it if someone peed in your room and left it there?"

All seven of the signs stolen from Atwater A and B were anonymously returned early this week, some to public safety and some to the Atwater Commons office. Although emails sent to residents early last week suggested that all Atwater B residents would be charged for a portion of the estimated $2,300 in damages, the returning of the signs should reduce some of the costs, according to Facilities.

> *"We need folks to realize that Atwater is our house, that elevator is part of our house. How would you like it if someone peed in your room and left it there?"*
>
> *Custodial Supervisor Daniel Celik*

Thomas said that her office is "holding off on charges as we are still investigating."

To address the impacts of the damages on residents and staff, Thomas and public safety hosted a mandatory community meeting Thursday, Oct. 3. Only one resident of each of the 43 suites and singles was required to attend, but the room, which fits more than 60, was filled to capacity, with additional students standing in the back.

"My goal is to put everyone in one room to talk about our community, and how the things that are happening affect others, and how we can hold each other accountable," Thomas said.

At the meeting, Thomas called upon Atwater residents, as upperclassmen, to set the tone for the building and the Middlebury social scene more generally.

"Atwater is becoming known as the space where you can come and mess things up with no consequences," she said. "When upperclassmen set a tone, usually that tone sticks. Will this conversation eliminate all of the issues? No. But I don't think damage like this will be repeated."

Two days after the meeting, Atwater B residents noticed phallic images drawn in marker in an elevator and on a suite door. A resident tried to scrub the drawing from the door, but was unable to fully remove the image.

Weekend damages are not unique to Atwater. Although no destruction occurred in buildings A and B this weekend, other loca-

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Phil Scott is first Republican governor to support Trump impeachment inquiry

By ARIADNE WILL
Staff Writer

Vermont Governor Phil Scott (R) made public his support for the impeachment inquiry against President Donald Trump at a Sept. 26 press conference, making him the first Republican governor in the nation to do so.

"I think the inquiry is important, yes, and where it leads from here is going to be driven by the facts that are established," Scott said in the press conference.

Scott, a Republican, has been a critic of Trump since the 2016 election cycle.

"[Scott's] criticism of Trump is pretty well-known," Professor of Political Science Matthew Dickinson said. "It is a signal, in a very moderate way, that states, 'I'm not one of those Republicans that will die in support of Trump.'"

Dickinson, an expert in American politics, said that Scott's decision to back the inquiry was not the first time he publicly spoke out against President Trump.

"When Trump first announced his candidacy and it was clear he was going to win the nomination, Governor Scott was one of the first governors to come out against him," he said. "That raised a lot of eyebrows because he didn't have to do that."

Though Dickinson noted that Scott has never been afraid to critique the President, Dickinson said that Scott's decision to endorse the inquiry differs from an endorsement of an impeachment.

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Gov. Phil Scott speaks at the Addison County Legislative Breakfast in March of 2019. Scott was the first Republican governor to support an impeachment inquiry by House Democrats.

SHIRLEY MAO/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A laundry machine in residential hall displays a $0 charge. Laundry will be free for the remainder of the semester.

Laundry to remain free for semester while college transitions to new system

By ZEKE HODKIN
Staff Writer

Sweaty students, rejoice! ... For now.

Laundry machines on campus, which students previously had to pay to use, will remain free for the rest of the fall semester. Typically costing between $2.75 and $3.00 to wash and dry a load, the old laundry system required students to first purchase a $2.00 reusable laundry card.

According to Director of Business Services Matthew Curran, the third-party vendor that handles laundry transactions, CSC Laundry, has changed its control system, and the college is in the process of transitioning to the new program. Come J-Term, students will have to pay for laundry services with their student ID cards, he said.

Curran said that Business Services had intended to charge students for laundry this fall, but they encountered difficulties using the student IDs as a payment method.

"While going through this process, it was determined that the data needed to be on the ID cards to procure laundry services was more difficult to upload than originally thought," Curran said.

Throughout the summer, CSC Laundry changed its charging system in laundry units across campus. The result was that select locations had washing machines and dryers running free of charge.

According to Torre Davy '21, who was on campus over the summer, one washing machine and dryer duo in Meeker House was free, while other machines in the building required the usual pay-card method. Now, none of the machines in the building require any payment to function, as is the case across campus.

Many students rejoiced in learning that their first few loads of laundry this academic year would be free. Vanessa Young '20 said she hopes to run more laundry loads before having to pay again.

"It's amazing to have free laundry," Young said. "I've split my load into two each time I've gone,

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Initiaive pushes for greater diversity in economics

By EMMANUEL TAMRAT
Online Editor

Economics is an increasingly popular major at Middlebury, and the department's growing enrollment has placed a strain on its resources. However, a perception remains on campus that the majority of economics majors fit within a certain demographic — often male, certainly white.

EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Economics Department Chair John Maluccio spoke about the benefits of diversity in the economics profession.

EMMANUEL TAMRAT/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
A new student club hopes to inform people about the broad scope of economics and increase the accessibility of lesser-known student resources.

This impression — somewhat based in fact — can impact which students feel comfortable taking economics courses. Wider national trends show that women and minorities are underrepresented in the economics profession.

Some students are trying to change that breakdown.

Together with the Economics Department, the largest department at Middlebury by number of majors, Lizzie Friesen '20 hopes to start a conversation about the lack of diversity in economics and to address stereotypes about the field. The department held a dinner banquet in Atwater Dining Hall on Monday, Sept. 30, where Friesen — herself an economics major — formally announced the Rethinking Economics initiative and its associated student-led club by the same name.

To better understand the perception of economics at Middlebury, Friesen interviewed students on-camera and presented their responses in a video compilation at the Atwater dinner.

Common answers to the question "What kind of a person studies economics?" reinforced the stereotype that most economics students are athletic and finance-oriented. However, a few outlier responses mentioned that economics students might want to "dismantle the system."

One student in the video said, "I think the stereotype is white male athletes, but I find that to not actually be that true."

When asked, "What do economists care most about?," the majority of students said "money"' and "markets." Some students said they don't know, while others said economics is the "study of choices," and economists are interested in the well-being of everyone.

Economics Department Chair John Maluccio spoke at the dinner about the benefits of race and gender diversity in the economics field. He referenced a paper from the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, which stressed that diverse groups make better and more objective decisions. This is especially important because economics directly influences policy-making, and policy affects constituents of all backgrounds.

The Economics Department has already taken steps to explore ways to make economics courses more accessible to students from under-represented backgrounds. Economics Professor Erin Wolcott cited results from a Swarthmore College study, which looked at nine different colleges, including Middlebury, and explored how targeted outreach affects the diversity of economics courses.

Wolcott contributed data to the study, and in an email to The Campus, she said that the results of the paper show that enrollment in economics courses increased by nearly 20% when targeted information about economics was sent to incoming students from under-represented groups.

The students who launched Rethinking Economics have personal experience feeling out of place in the major. Friesen said that she often questioned whether economics was right for her.

"When people ask me what I major in and I say economics, I often get the response, 'Oh, you don't seem like an econ major,'" she said.

But over time, she began to wonder why certain people "seem" like economics majors and others don't, and what effect those stereotypes might have on Middlebury students.

Friesen decided to reach out to fellow economics majors and organize a discussion. She connected with them over having to constantly dispel the common notion that economics is synonymous with money and finance.

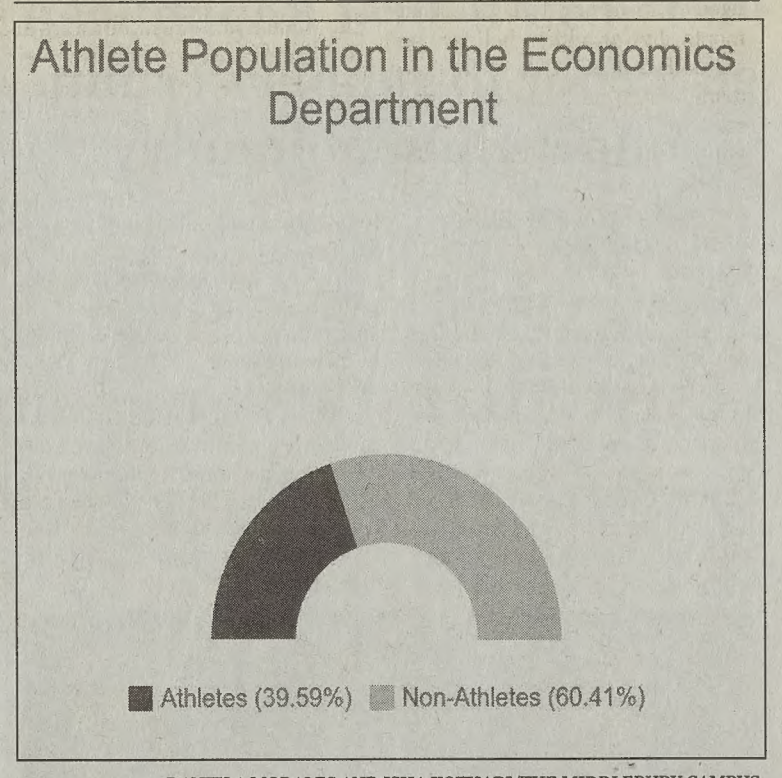
"Some people haven't really given it much thought or don't really know what economics is, which is totally understandable," she said. "I've been redefining economics for myself over and over again throughout my time at Middlebury, and I still don't think I have a solid definition of what economics is."

She said her own definition of economics has become more broad and nuanced during her time at Middlebury, and she hopes to encourage people to redefine economics for themselves.

Friesen has numerous ideas for the newly-founded club. She has plans to create a peer mentoring program, and looks forward to building a website that centralizes resources for economics students, especially job opportunities such as student research and summer positions. She explained these opportunities are not as equitably accessible, since they are often made available through connections and money.

The Rethinking Economics club held its first meeting of the semester on Tuesday, Oct. 8. More information about the club and and how to get involved is available at go/rethinkingeconomics.

DANIELA MORALES AND ISHA KOTHARI/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS



DANIELA MORALES AND ISHA KOTHARI/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
According to the college's website, 27% of Middlebury students participate in varisty sports.

Students will pay for wash and dry with ID cards this J-Term

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but I would have previously shoved the same amount of laundry into one washer."

For some, a free laundry system isn't entirely new. Varsity athletes enjoy free laundry in the Athletic Center, but the services are limited to athletic clothing during their season. Young, who plays for the women's basketball team, said the washer and dryer unit that runs athletic apparel often leaves her clothes damp and musty.

"We aren't ungrateful for having laundry, but we end up having to spend money still by washing stuff in the dorms during the season," she said.

Natalia Santiago '23 hopes laundry will remain free beyond winter break. Santiago said she often has to run the dryer twice to completely dry her clothes, and her bedding requires an entirely separate cycle.

"Paying for laundry would be such a burden because these washers and dryers do not work to their maximum potential," she said. "I don't want to pay over three dollars on one round of laundry for it to be sub-par quality."

Cost is not the only barrier to easy laundry access. Laundry rooms are scattered across campus, and not all residential buildings have machines. Notably, students living in Battell, the biggest first-year dorm, must trek to the expansive laundry complex in Forest Hall's basement.

Students have also complained that the machines used to load money onto laundry cards are distant from many laundry rooms, and that the machines require cash to add more value onto the cards.

Curran ensured that any money on current laundry cards will be transferrable to students' ID cards when the new system launches. Although the Business Services office has no official plan yet, Curran said they are anticipating students may be able to submit their current laundry cards and ID numbers for the College to add value on their behalf.

"Students should hold onto the old laundry cards for the time being," he said.

ABIGAIL CHANG/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Jewish students juggle classes and religion during the high holidays

By ISABEL LICKEY
Contributing Writer

The fall high holidays can be difficult for Jewish students, as they try to complete their coursework while also making space to observe the two holiest days of the Jewish calendar. Rosh Hashanah, which this year began on the evening of Sept. 29, marks the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, which began the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 8, is the Jewish Day of atonement.

MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the holiest holidays days of the Jewish calendar. This year, both holidays fall on school days.

Both holidays are meant to be days of prayer and celebration, and some Jewish students feel torn between attending services on the holidays and going to class. Though the college offers excused absences for religious observance, the balance is still difficult to strike.

"I felt like I had two days in one," Jenny Moss '20.5 said about her experience going from service to class during Rosh Hashanah. "It was a weird and sort of abrupt transition."

Having to immediately leave the service and re-focus on school means less time for reflection and can take away from the holiday, Moss said. However, missing class can mean added stress on a day meant for prayer.

While professors are discouraged from having tests or assignments due on either holiday, per the College Handbook, various students have said that their professors have not always honored this policy. This may require a student to take an extension, which could mean devoting time during the holidays to studying or completing the extended work.

"I didn't necessarily have to make up a ton of work," Noah Hochfelder '22 said. "But it still felt like I kind of needed a little more space to observe and to reflect."

This balance can be even more difficult on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in Judaism. The day is meant to reflect on, and ultimately atone for, any wrongs one may have committed, and traditionally there is a daylong fast. This year, Yom Kippur falls on Wednesday, Oct. 9, the middle of the school week. The fast can make going to classes hard, and some students who feel they cannot miss class elect not to fast at all.

There is not an easy solution to making these days less difficult for the students observing them. Students agree that while it would be ideal to have school canceled, it is not pragmatic.

"I think it's a challenge to fit a religious calendar that is different from the dominant Christian and secular calendar into the [school] year," said Danielle Stillman, a rabbi and associate chaplain at the college.

However, there are steps that students say could make the balance easier for them. Professors, for example, could refrain from assigning large projects due in the days immediately following the holidays. Stillman thinks that educating the Middlebury community about these holidays could help professors and the student body be more aware and accommodating during these weeks.

For now, however, practicing students must make a choice: take the day off to observe the holiday, or go to class and observe still.

"I would love to be able to take that whole day to reflect on myself and my past year," Moss said. "But I'll either do that or I'll go to class. You can't do both."

Reflection Friday series asks, "What matters to you, and why?"

By ABIGAIL CHANG
Contributing Writer

With preparation for midterm assessments dominating students' schedules, many may find opportunities for reflecting on their values and choices few and far between. In recognition of this absence, the Center for Creativity, Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship, better known as the Innovation Hub, hosts Reflection Fridays, parts of a series that occurs several times per semester.

Through the series, which began a few years ago, participants have found a way to tap into Middlebury community members' experiences, bringing together a collection of interviews throughout the semester that engage with the question "What matters to you, and why?"

Each Reflection Friday installment features an interview-style talk in front of an audience that allows guest speakers to discuss their academic and career paths in the context of their core values.

"We often are in this very formal learning environment at Middlebury, and the series also is intended to allow members of the Middlebury community to perhaps share aspects of their identity or their life or their interests that may not have surfaced in a more professional context," said Charlotte Sullivan, an associate of the Social Entrepreneurship Program and coordinator for the series.

This year, the coordinators of the series are partnering with the Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life.

"Being creative and being innovative really requires a depth of thought and feeling that is often very spiritual," Sullivan said.

The Innovation Hub has been working with Mark Orten, the director of the Scott Center, to design a set of fall semester interviews focusing on beginnings and endings. Interviewees include members of the Middlebury community both new and old. The upcoming weeks will feature interviews with David Gibson, the new vice president for communications and marketing, and Nan Jenks-Jay, dean of environmental affairs and director of the Franklin Environmental Center, who is retiring this year.

The Reflection Friday series began after a suggestion from Tiffany Sargent, director of the Center for Community Engagement. Sargent was inspired by a similar program at Yale University that proposed the question: "What matters to me and why?"

Coincidentally, Jonathan Isham, an economics and environmental studies professor who helped found the series, was already asking this question in his classroom. Isham had his students break up into groups of three, with one person posing the question to another and the third observing. After two minutes, every group paused to debrief before switching roles.

"It's such an important question and it's embedded in questions about your identity and agency, how you see yourself, and how you go through the world," Isham said.

One of Isham's advisees, Alyssa Brown '20, was the first person to be interviewed for the series this semester. Brown spoke about forgiveness, both of herself and others, as well as where she is from and matters of identity, race and inclusivity.

"I didn't think I would have a lot to say, but after the interview, I found that people were actually interested in my thoughts and words," Brown said. "My most powerful takeaway is that most people are interested in what others have to say — I love hearing people speak, and the same goes for others who listen to me."

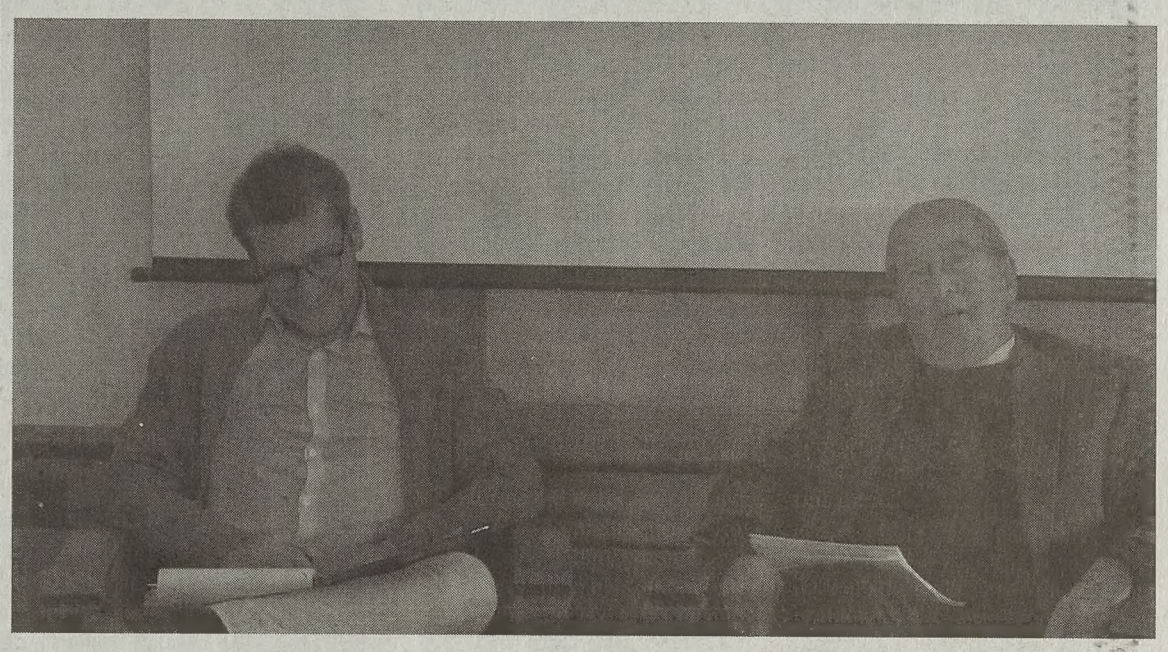
Reflection Friday interviewees are able to select their own interviewers, giving the discussions a comfortable atmosphere. Brown was interviewed by Isham.

Gibson has yet to select his interviewer, but Jenks-Jay will be interviewed by longtime colleague Steve Trombulak, a recent retiree from the Biology Department. Generally, speakers can choose anyone to interview them, even those without a direct connection to the college. As Sullivan said, "It can be your mom. It can be your little brother. That would be so fun."

In addition to the college faculty, staff, students and friends of interviewees who often attend, residents of the town of Middlebury may attend Reflection Friday installments. This has proved difficult, however, as the discussions are held in the Chateau, which is inacessible for those without a Middlebury ID.

The series' hosts hope to provide a time for Middlebury community members to examine how each interviewee's values have shaped their experiences. However, the series seems particularly applicable to the students in the audience, who are in the process of developing their own principles and interests, especially while selecting a major or looking for a job.

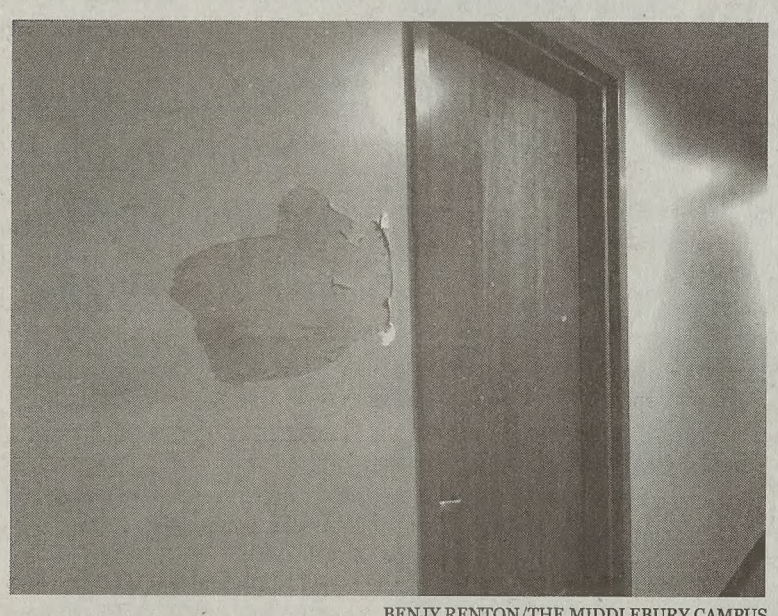
"There's so much pressure to have the thing that you're doing be from external pressures or from fear or from money or from all this noise that doesn't necessarily have to do with the interior or personal values," Sullivan said, "So to hear about that aspect of making choices even with all the noise is also really valuable to complete the picture."



COURTESY PHOTO

Political Science Professor Murray Dry (right), one of many guest speakers invited to participate in Reflection Fridays, spoke about his lifelong commitment to learning.

Custodial staff burdened by repeated property destruction



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students ripped bathrooms signs off the walls in Allen Hall this weekend.

Continued from Page 1

tions on campus sustained damages. In the stairwells of Starr Hall, vandals ripped down emergency lights that will now need to be replaced. In Allen Hall, a first-year dorm, they ripped four bathroom signs off the walls, totaling over $800 in damages for the costs of the signs, repairs and reinstallation.

The same weekend the most serious damages were made in Atwater, custodial staff also found urine in an elevator in first-year dorm Hadley Hall.

At the meeting, Thomas encouraged students to be bolder in calling out peers they see engaging in destructive behavior. If they don't feel comfortable doing so themselves, she said, they should call public safety.

Public Safety Officer Bryan LeFave and Sergeant Robert Patten recounted at the meeting previous incidents of damage and violence in Atwater. Last year, a student dropped a fire extinguisher five stories down the center of an Atwater stairwell, an incident that would have caused a "certain fatality" had a student been struck, Patten said. Several years ago, a bottle was smashed over a student's head during an Atwater party.

"The reason we're talking about getting [destruction] under control at this level is so that we can prevent things from escalating to a level that is tragic," Patten said.

The public safety officers suggested residents limit their parties to those over 21, to prevent open events from escalating.

Thomas also talked to students about the burden these damages place on custodial staff. Custodial Supervisor Celik said his staff wants students to understand that someone has to clean up after their messes, and that students should be more respectful.

"It detracts from our morale over time," he said.

"If you're home and your parents are gone and you're having a party, you're responsible for the space," he added.

Celik also emphasized the impact that defacing property has on other residents.

"It's not just disrespectful to our staff, but it's also disrespectful to your fellow students," he said. "People get in the elevator to use it and they have to stand in pee and touch the buttons. Nobody wants to do that."

Cleaning urine out of an elevator is not a simple or easy task: Custodial staff have to throw away the mops they use to clean urine because of sanitary issues; urine can seep beneath linoleum; the necessary cleaning products can eat away at the finish of the floor to cause general degradation; and the elevator will often smell of urine for days after being cleaned.

"I feel that sometimes students forget that actual human beings clean up after them," Emma Schoblocher '20, an Atwater resident who was at the community meeting, told The Campus. "The amount of times that I have heard people on this campus say things like, 'Ew, I don't want to clean that vomit, the custodians will do it, it's their job,' is appalling. We need to show more gratitude for our custodial staff."

In a question and answer portion of the meeting, students also discussed whether specific suites might be responsible for bringing in the guests that cause property damage. Jules Struzyna '19.5 suggested that athletic suites habitually throw events that result in destruction.

"Male sports teams take up a certain space on this campus and create a specific culture — our building is colloquially known as 'fratwater' for a reason," Struzyna said in an email to The Campus. "Fellow current residents have the responsibility to change that culture, otherwise they are tacitly approving of it, and the behaviors it deems appropriate."

Cross country team member Jack Litowitz '20 responded to the accusation and Struzyna's use of the phrase 'dumb bro' at the meeting, noting that he knows many athletes who are respectful of their spaces and care about where they live and the people they live with.

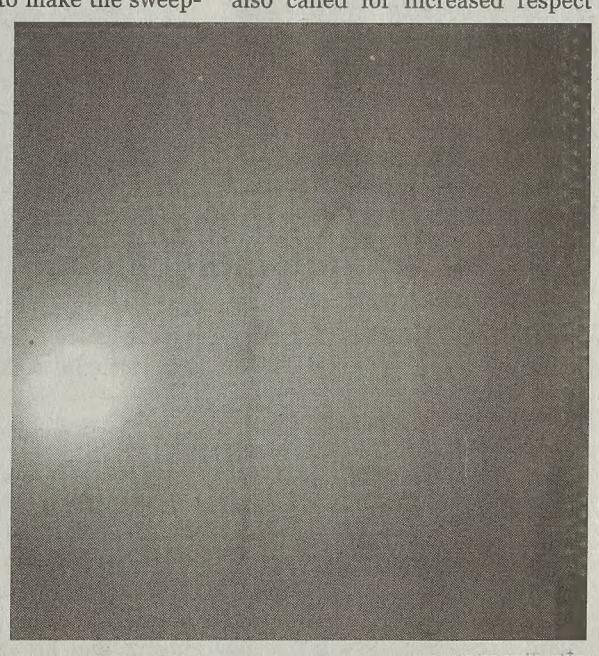
"I don't think it is either productive or fair to make the sweeping generalization that somehow all athletes on campus are 'dumb bros'," he said. "While it is true that many teams do hold large social functions, so too do many other groups that live in Atwater, like clubs and even groups of friends."

In an email to The Campus, Litowitz commented that the issues "will not be solved through blind accusations, unfair stereotyping and hurtful language. Progress will only be achieved through calm and collected dialogue and an open mind."

Facilities Supervisor Wayne Hall and Custodial Supervisor Roger Norton said that when they've had issues with sports suites in the past, they have reached out to the athletic coaches, who then discuss behavior with the teams.

"It's about how it reflects back on the team," Norton said.

Property damage on campus is not a new phenomenon. According to a recent search of The Campus' archives, a record-breaking $16,000 in damages was incurred in the fall of 2011. While a substantial portion of that cost was attributed to a fire in a Gifford Hall suite, college administrators also called for increased respect for staff and residential halls in the aftermath.



COURTESY PHOTO

A phallic symbol was drawn on the door of an Atwater B suite in marker this past weekend; this picture was taken after residents attempted to wash it away. Another was drawn in an elevator of the same building.

Managing Editor James Finn '20.5 contributed reporting for this article.

Food fighters: Middlebury convenes for 50th CROP Hunger Walk

By HAEUN PARK
Contributing Writer

For 50 years, towns across America have laced up, stretched out and walked side-by-side as part of the Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty (CROP) Hunger Walks. Last Sunday, Oct. 6, 180 community members gathered for the walk in Addison County, now in its 42nd consecutive year. Live music and brisk autumn winds swept through the Town Green as families, pets and neighbors mingled around tables displaying donated boxes of donuts and pizza. When, at 1 p.m., the walkers began their three-mile course through town, they were sent off to the sound of trumpet fanfare.

CROP Hunger Walks are hosted across the country each year to raise awareness and funds for overcoming systemic poverty. They are sponsored by the Church World Service, an agency that provides disaster relief, development and refugee assistance internationally.

This year marks the 50th year of the CROP Hunger Walk and the 13th year of Patty Hallman's involvement as co-chair of the Addison County walk. According to Hallman, the local board that organizes the walks has mastered the process. Preparation for the walk begins in the spring, when Hallman contacts all the community churches and organizations that have taken part in previous years and informs them of the date of the walk. As the walk draws closer, Hallman begins distributing registration packets and posters as advertisement.

Twenty-five percent of the money raised during the event is directly distributed to seven local hunger-fighting organizations, including the Middlebury Summer Lunch Program and the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity. One of the biggest portions of the funds goes to Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (H.O.P.E), Addison County's largest food shelf.

"This walk is really important to the people in this community," Hallman said. "Every year, the mission continues to be the same: feeding our neighbors that live right around our corner and our neighbors that live around the world."

Last year, Addison County CROP participants raised $26,400. Nationally, participants spread over 800 walks raised a total $8,300,000.

The route started at the Town Green and passed through many key landmarks in town, including Middlebury Union High School, the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-Op and the Davis Family Library. During the walk, volunteers in neon orange traffic vests — several high school students from the youth group at the Congregational Church of Middlebury — directed crowds of walkers safely through the main intersections of the course.

Geography Professor Peter Nelson has been helping direct event traffic for around eight years.

"One of the nice things [the walk] has is a broad reach both globally and locally," Nelson said. "I also think it's a way in which youth in the area can get involved in something that's good. My youngest son — he's 12-years old — raised nearly $400. He felt really good about that and thought that was cool. It was something where he could see himself making an impact."

Children brought a lively energy to the walk. Every so often, a group of kids would run to the front of the pack, laughing and weaving in between the legs of adults. The event hosted people from a diverse range of ages and experiences, such as Mona Rogers, a Middlebury alumni class of 1962.

Rogers has lived in Vermont for 41 years and started participating in the hunger walk her first year here. She has attended regularly since 1979.

"The first year I joined, I knew it was something good that the church and the world should do," Rogers said. "There's so many hungry people in the world, so we need to do what we can in our small areas."

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
This year's CROP Walk included participants of all ages, who raised almost $7,000 online as of Oct. 8.

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society was one of many congregations that participated in the walk.

Ski-industry giant Vail Resorts acquires Peak Resorts

Deal brings total number of Vail-run mountains in Vermont to three

By KARI HENKEN
Online Editor

Following months of speculation that a potential deal was brewing, Colorado-based ski conglomerate Vail Resorts announced on Sept. 24 that it had acquired Peak Resorts, owner of the popular southern Vermont ski destination Mount Snow. With the acquisition of Peak Resorts, which operated 17 ski resorts located in the Northeast and Midwest, Vail Resorts now owns 37 ski mountain resorts in the United States, Canada and Australia, according to a Sept. 24 press release.

The 17 new ski areas Vail added to its holdings include Mount Snow in Dover, Vt. and New York's Hunter Mountain, as well as Attitash Mountain, Wildcat Mountain and Crotched Mountain Resorts in New Hampshire. Vail Resorts is already familiar with the Green Mountain State; the company purchased Stowe Mountain Resort in 2017, and Okemo Mountain Resort in Ludlow last year.

Since 1997, Peak Resorts ski areas have comprised nearly 1,890 acres of skiable terrain that appeal to a wide range of ages and abilities. Many resorts are located near major metropolitan areas.

With companies like Vail occupying such large tracts of skiable land, the ski industry is rapidly changing. The advent of large ski resorts and corporations means that smaller independently run ski mountains are doing their best to keep up with the competition. However, small ski mountains backed by larger companies can offer better ticket prices and deals — such as the Vail Resorts' Epic Pass, which will now include all of the Peak Resorts.

"Passes like these are running little mountains out of buisness."

Emily Kohutnicki '20

"We are thrilled that with this acquisition, skiers and riders living in and around some of the biggest cities in the country will now have access to both ski close to home and at renowned mountain resorts around the world—with just one pass," said Rob Katz, chairman and chief executive officer of Vail Resorts in the September press release.

"We are excited to welcome each of these ski areas into the Vail Resorts family and to continue to invest in what makes them unique," he said.

Priced at $969 for the whole season, Vail's Epic Pass is an attractive option for those looking to ski around the world. With one pass, snow-lovers can access mountains around North America, Australia and parts of Europe. Now, with the acquisition of Peak Resorts, more Northeastern, Mid-Atlantic and Midwestern mountains will be added to the growing list.

Given the unpredictable and weather-reliant nature of ski seasons, larger ski resorts thrive on the sale of pre-ordered and reduced rate season passes and bundles — like the Epic Pass — that insure revenue upfront. Lift tickets can be pricey, with some mountains in the U.S. charging over $100 for adult weekday passes.

The Epic Pass and similar deals offered by other ski resorts are fairly well known in the skiing world, and for some Middlebury College students, purchasing the Epic Pass is a no-brainer — especially now that it includes more mountains closer to campus.

Jacob Shashoua '20 is one student looking to purchase the Epic Pass this upcoming ski season. "I love the idea of having an inclusive ski pass," Shashoua said. "This [pass] makes skiing around the country accessible. As a college student, the prospect of going to ski at all of these mountains across the U.S. is now more of a possibility."

However, not all Middlebury students are excited about the Vail deal. Emily Kohutnicki '20, a member of the Snow Bowl's Ski Patrol, said the acquisition might bolster infrastructure and sales at mom-and-pop mountains, but might also affect the local ski culture.

"I think that [the acquisition] is good in a way because smaller mountains like Mount Snow, where I grew up skiing, will get a lot more developed with more funding. But, [these larger resorts] no longer foster a sense of comradery and cheap skiing," Kohutnicki said.

"The pass makes it incredibly accessible to ski all over the county."

Jacob Shashoua '20

Ski enthusiast Charlotte Bichet '20 has mixed feelings about Vail's Epic Pass as well.

"I like the inclusivity of the Epic Pass, but it could drive out smaller mountains. With fewer organizations owning these ski mountains, [companies] can run up prices because there is no longer any competition," Bichet said.

"Passes like these are running little mountains, like the Snow Bowl, out of business," Kohutnicki said.

While Bichet is not fully against Vail's deal with Peak Resorts, she noted that "there is definitely a bit of a give-and-take with these smaller mountains being bought up."

But amidst all the financial details and legalities of the acquisition, there is one thing that Middlebury students can agree on: There is nothing better than a snowy day on the slopes.

"Regardless of the politics of large corporations buying ski mountains, this business is keeping the slopes of Vermont open," Bichet said. "And we're all really excited for the upcoming ski season."

COURTESY PHOTO
Freshly groomed trails and picturesque blue skies abound at Stowe Mountain Resort, one of the Vermont mountains included in Vail Resorts' Epic Pass.

Gov. Phil Scott backs Democrats' impeachment inquiry

Continued from Page 1

"At this stage, it's not a full-blown impeachment," Dickinson said. "It's an inquiry into whether we want an impeachment. There's no actual case being made that says, 'Yes, the President should be impeached.'"

Dickinson said the real test will be if the Democrats can come up with evidence that warrants impeachment proceedings, and if the Republicans respond by refuting that their criteria for impeachment does not fit within the parameters of the Constitution.

"Then what will Scott say?" Dickinson said.

Dickinson also believes that backing the impeachment inquiry may help Scott's re-election campaign. As governor of one of the bluest states in the country, Scott's decision to support the impeachment inquiry reflects Vermont's larger political atmosphere. It could be a decision that many Vermonters agree with.

"If Phil Scott is running for re-election in a state that is very liberal, he's hoping that by supporting an impeachment inquiry, he's telling the voters more in line with Vermont's politics more than the Republican national, and he's hoping it will help him," he said.

"The governor is certainly reflecting the views of Vermonters who aren't strong supporters [of Trump]," former Vermont Governor Jim Douglas '72 said. Douglas, also a Republican, was governor of Vermont from 2003 until 2011.

Like Scott, Douglas identifies with a more moderate form of Republicanism that he says has remained in the Northeast, despise growing partisan tensions in Washington.

"Vermont Republicans generally are viewed as more moderate," Douglas said. "I always felt I had to work across the aisle. I had democratic majorities most of the time I was in office."

Though Vermont politicians have maintained relatively civil as tensions have flourished elsewhere, Douglas said that he, too, has witnessed the partisan divide grow in Vermont.

"The way I usually put it is it's not as good as it used to be," he said. "I was talking with a former legislator last weekend and we agreed that there is a little more rancor and partisanship in Montpelier than there was in the old days. Some of the national mood can't help but bleed into Vermont, unfortunately."

Regardless of how party politics differ between Vermont and D.C., Douglas, like Dickinson, was quick to point out that there are many steps that must be taken before impeachment proceedings begin in earnest.

"On impeachment, this is just an initial step," he said. "My own thought was that if the House leaders feel they have a basis on which to begin an inquiry, then they should do what they feel is right. I think the governor was just saying that if they want to take a look at it, that's fine."

While Scott's decision to support the inquiry makes a political statement, his position in Vermont politics ultimately does not allow him to weigh in on the national level.

"Phil Scott, whether he supports [the inquiry] or not, is not going to affect the debate in the House or the Senate," Dickinson said. "But it reminds us that the brand of Republicanism that he espouses is a more moderate version than that of the national Republican Party."

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Governor Phil Scott gave public support for the impeachment inquiry into President Trump at a press conference in late Septemeber. Last fall, an editor interviewed Scott about his then-candidacy for re-election (above).

Dead Creek teems with life on annual Wildlife Day

By MICHAEL FRANK
Staff Writer

ADDISON— Much of Vermont's most beautiful fauna are seldom seen in the wild. This is one of the motives behind Dead Creek Wildlife Day, an annual event that the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department hosted last Saturday, Oct. 5 in association with Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreations, and the Otter Creek Audubon Society. The Department of Fish & Wildlife has hosted the event for more than 20 years.

From morning into the early evening, the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) headquarters on Route 17 was home to an array of outdoor events, giving Vermonters a chance to discover and explore their state's diverse wildlife.

> *"I feel like people leave with a great appreciation for living in Vermont, especially in the fall."*
>
> *Nicole Meier*

"This is one of our favorite times of the year," said Nicole Meier, information and education specialist for Vermont Fish & Wildlife.

At 7:30 a.m., early risers got a chance to witness a bird banding demonstration, and had a specialist walk them through the ins and outs of the process. Vermont Fish & Wildlife bands both owls and songbirds for tracking and research purposes.

For the rest of the day, two large tents by the Dead Creek WMA headquarters hosted an array of activities for all ages.

"We have things for pretty much everyone," Meier said. "We have facepainting and we have the kids make bluebird boxes and duck decoys. But we also do have scientific workshops and hands-on activities for adults."

This year, a native Vermont bear biologist gave a presentation on how to be a good neighbor to the native black bear population. At the third annual waterfowl-calling contest, put on by event partner Delta Waterfowl, kids competed for prizes with their best goose and duck calls.

The organizers were also excited to welcome back Chief Don Stevens of the Nulhegan Abenaki Tribe to this year's celebration. At this Dead Creek Wildlife Day, Chief Stevens presented the story of how the Abenaki people were created, along with other pieces of local oral tellings. The story has been told throughout Abenaki history.

Apart from each fall's Wildlife Day, which takes place the first Saturday of each October, Vermont Fish & Wildlife also puts on a Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival on the first Sunday of every May. Herrick said that event is the "spring kickoff" to all the department's events.

Meier spoke of her excitement for the opportunity to engage with the community through the event.

"I think the most important part is just being out there and being available to the public," Meier said. She stressed that the Vermont Fish & Wildlife staff were at Saturday's event to answer questions and facilitate discussion. Generally, they hoped to be approachable to attendees.

"I feel like people leave with a great appreciation for living in Vermont, especially in the fall." Meier said. "It's something about the changing of the season that helps people appreciate what is around them, and I think this is a great event for making them do that."

COURTESY PHOTO

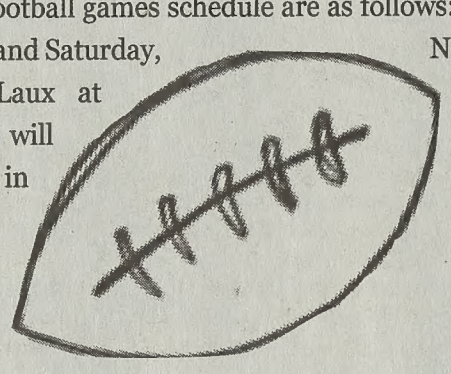
MICHAEL FRANK/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

From face painting to scientific workshops, Saturday's Dead Creek Wildlife Day catered to audiences of all ages.

Attend Home Football Games with a Class of '51 Alum!

Dates: Saturdays, Oct. 12, Oct. 19, and Nov. 2

A 90-year-old class of 1951 alumnus is looking for a college student volunteer to join in watching the Middlebury College home football games with him at the stadium. In order to enjoy the game, he needs support exiting his car and getting to the football game and back to his car at the end. The remaining home football games schedule are as follows: Saturday, Oct. 12; Saturday, Oct. 19; and Saturday, Nov. 2. Interested? Contact Ashley Laux at alaux@middlebury.edu. Ashley will then put interested volunteers in touch with the family directly.



Center for Community Engagement

Learn How to Solve Big Problems in the Public Sector

Time: Friday, Oct. 11, 12:30 p.m.
Location: Axinn 229

Do you have an interest in shaping how new technologies can improve how the government works? Then come meet Accenture Federal Services (AFS) CEO, John Goodman '79, P'23! At the forefront of innovation, AFS is focused on trends in information technology, including cloud, mobility and social computing. AFS is about combining human-centric design with commercial practices and new technologies, and they focus on delivering real outcomes — from rescuing healthcare.gov, to transforming one of the largest supply chains in the world for the Department of State, to redefining the student loan business and experience. They're on the leading edge of fundamentally redefining the next generation of government. Lunch will be provided.

Design a Logo for the Middlebury Tiny House Committee

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 11, 11:59 p.m.

The Middlebury Tiny House Committee is planning on presenting at various community events throughout the fall. They are looking for a catching design logo that goes with their project. Their tentative motto is: "Homes First." Be creative and blow them away with your ideas. Don't overthink it; keep it simple. Designs and ideas can be sent to Ingrid Pixley at ipixley@csac-vt.org. If you have any questions, contact Ingrid at her email or call 802-377-5324.

Apply for Green Corps Environmental Organizing Fellowship

Deadline: Monday, Oct. 18 at 11:59 p.m.

Green Corps is a year-long fellowship which trains environmental organizers, provides field support for today's critical environmental campaigns, and graduates activists who possess the skills, temperament, and commitment to fight and win tomorrow's environmental battles. Their year-long program puts you in an intensive classroom training with people like Bill McKibben, Phil Radford and other guest speakers. Then, you move to hands-on experience working with groups like Oceana, Audubon Society, The Wilderness Society, and Mighty Earth to fight climate change, protect public lands and reform our food system. And when you graduate, they will help you find a career with one of the nation's leading environmental and social change groups.
The planet needs all the help it can get, especially now with so many protections under attack. To win now and build a strong foundation for lasting progress, Green Corps needs people who know how to organize: to run organizations and campaigns that will inspire the support and action they need to save the planet. They are accepting the top 25 out of more than 1000 applicants for their 2020-2021 program, which will be held across the U.S. wherever the campaign requires. If you're passionate about the environment and ready to learn and practice the craft of grassroots organizing, apply at greencorps.org/apply. For questions, please contact Morag McKenzie at morag@greencorps.org or call 806-671-7290.

Gain Hands on Experience with "Health Policy in Action" During JTerm!

Deadline: Sunday, Oct. 20 at 11:59 p.m.

This J–Term, Professor Jessica Holmes will be offering an academic internship course called "Health Policy in Action." This course will combine a four day/week internship at a Vermont health care organization with one session/week in the classroom, providing the opportunity to apply liberal arts learning to real-world experience in addressing critical issues facing Vermonters. Students will spend 30 hours/week on-site at various organizations in Middlebury, Burlington, and Montpelier. Class time will be spent debriefing the internship experience, building skills relevant to health policy analysis and working on the research project. Grading will be based on participation, evaluation by internship sponsor, evidence of personal growth and performance on the final project. Enrollment in the course is by approval only. Interested applicants must submit a resume to Professor Jessica Holmes at jholmes@middlebury.edu with subject line "JTERM" and finish a short online application by Oct. 20. View the internship descriptions at go/healthpolicyinaction and rank your preferences in the application. If you have any questions, please contact Professor Jessica Holmes at jholmes@middlebury.edu.

Community postings

Eckankar Vermont:

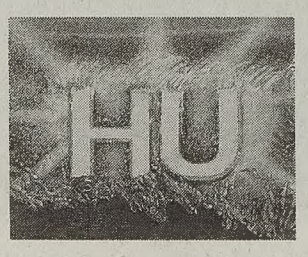
Dreams and Soul Travel: Keys to Healing and Inner Peace

Time: Thursday, Oct. 10, 6 p.m.
Location: Ilsley Public Library

Interested in unlocking your dreams? Looking for spiritual insight? Try a spiritual exercise to tap your inner truth through soul travel. An open discussion hosted by Eckankar.

More info: www.eckankar-vt.org

HU Chant: The Sound of Soul



Time: Thursday, Oct. 10, 7:15 p.m.
Location: Ilsley Public Library

Chanting HU heals, brings inner guidance, opens your dreams and replaces fear with love. Try a spiritual exercise to tap your inner truth through soul travel. An open discussion hosted by Eckankar.

More info: www.eckankar-vt.org

Center for Careers and Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

Results for Development Institute

Location: London, England
Term: Summer
Deadline: Oct. 12

RESULTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Paid Opportunity Abroad! R4D is seeking an Intern to join the Scaling Innovation team, supporting the promotion of innovation both within R4D and within the International Development Innovation Alliance (IDIA), a unique collaboration platform that brings together the senior leadership from the innovation teams, labs and departments of some of the world's leading development agencies.

James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies

Location: Monterey, Calif. (MIIS)
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

CNS

This is a great opportunity to conduct research on issues related to the spread and control of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and regional security issues in the former Soviet Union, Eurasia, East Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. CNS is a key innovator in nonproliferation research, pioneering the use of open source information and computer modeling. Several Midd students have enjoyed this experience. A stipend is offered to help cover travel and housing.

Addison County Chamber of Commerce-Communications and Projects Intern

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

ADDISON COUNTY Vermont

The primary project is to research, compile and write content for a Walking Tour of Middlebury brochure. This piece of collateral will be distributed to visitors in the welcome center, available from their website and placed in information packages. A secondary project is to research area businesses to expand Addison County business database. The Chamber of Commerce is a business association that helps to promote its members, provide referrals, and in some communities, serve as a destination marketing organization (DMO). The Addison County Chamber of Commerce has 420 members and operates a Visitor Information Center in Middlebury, Vermont.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Location: Washington, DC/Arlington, Va.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

The Nature Conservancy

The Winter Term 2020 intern working with the Global Conservation Campaigns Team will help create new conservation funding through legislative initiatives and ballot campaigns at the state and local level. GCC is also working on TNC's five major initiatives both nationally and internationally: water, oceans and coasts, cities, land and climate. The team's expertise includes strategic planning, feasibility research, public opinion polling, message development, fundraising, campaign management and training. The intern will have the opportunity to be in the middle of this work, and there may be opportunities to support additional teams within External Affairs during the four week internship.

Axel Johnson Inc.

Location: New York, NY
Term: Summer
Deadline: Nov. 15 (rolling)

AXEL JOHNSON INC.

This position has been referred by an alumnus and is available to sophomores! The interns will conduct research to further develop the group's current investment theses, explore industry and competitive context around certain investment prospects, and work on projects specific to portfolio companies. The intern will own an investment project and present results and recommendations to leadership team.

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Location: San Francisco, Calif.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Nov. 18

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF SAN FRANCISCO

The intern position will be part of the Data & Policy Analysis team in the CPO's Strategy & Operations (S&O) function. The Data & Policy Analysis team is responsible for analyzing the vast amount of data the Federal Reserve System's cash offices generate with the goal of informing better business decisions and influencing Federal Reserve policies. The intern will work on projects related to trends in the U.S. payments landscape and Federal Reserve policies supporting cash service provisioning. Our paid internship program offers you the opportunity to work on projects that impact the United States economy.

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More information about the paper and its submission policies can be found online at www.middleburycampus.com.

The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less.

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THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Work hard, grow up

editorial

The editorial represents the opinions of the Middlebury Campus editorial board.

What the f**k.

It's what we're all thinking — anyone, at least, who's heard about the damage done to Atwater two weekends ago. It's the only appropriate response to hearing that signs were ripped from walls outside suites, that elevators were peed in. And we'd imagine it's what the custodial staff were thinking as they scrubbed urine off of elevator floors in Atwater on that Sunday morning. Afterwards, they threw out the mop.

This isn't the first time we've editorialized on respect. It isn't the first time we've editorialized on treating the custodial staff with due kindness, or bringing a basic level of awareness to interactions with our immediate environment. But this instance stands alone because of the absurd levels the destruction of two weekends ago reached. It's ridiculous to have to tell grown men and women not to pee in elevators, or cause thousands in damages to shared living spaces by tearing signs off walls. Behavior like this seems to transcend previous level of disrespect, conveyed by leaving personal items in the bathroom or throwing out dinner plates — although we certainly don't condone that, either. Destruction on this level is uniquely nefarious and egregiously entitled, and holds direct and degrading repercussions for custodial staff. It isn't in Facilities' job description to mop up urine from adults drunk on Pabst Blue Ribbon and privilege. As far as we're concerned, it shouldn't be in anyone's.

But the script at Middlebury seems to have been written: When students stoop to this level of disrespect, when they choose to live out weekend fraternity fantasies, the job of cleaning up falls on custodial staff, while students carry on and deny accountability for damage they cause. To be clear, that denial of accountability isn't limited to weekend nights. This Sunday evening, for instance, The Campus received a series of anonymous emails criticizing our response to the Atwater damages. Looking into the damages, asserted the sender, isn't our job; "if an investigation is necessary," they wrote, "the school should do it."

We disagree, and we're sure the facilites staff member who asked us to follow the story would, too. This level of disrespect can't only be addressed by a CRD meeting and a fine of 30-something dollars per student. Changing this kind of deeply-ingrained, habitual behavior cannot be achieved on a case-by-case basis. Instead, it requires a holistic shift in Middlebury culture, or students' own fundamental restructuring of the way we think about our lives here.

Right now, a lot of us seem to think of the Middlebury campus (lowercase "c") as a world without consequence. Stagger into Atwater on any given Saturday and you'll find that mentality writ large, in neon body paint and alcohol stains all over the walls. Caught carrying your cider outside? Don't worry, Pub Safe won't actually call the police. Those beer cans on the floor there? Kick them aside, they'll get picked up eventually. Sure, dance on the table if you want. You don't have to worry about landlords, or authorities, or even working a vacuum in the morning. You don't have to worry about anything, really — tomorrow, you'll wake up and make the Sunday morning library-trek alongside the rest of the student body, untouched. Worst case scenario, you'll have a lousy headache.

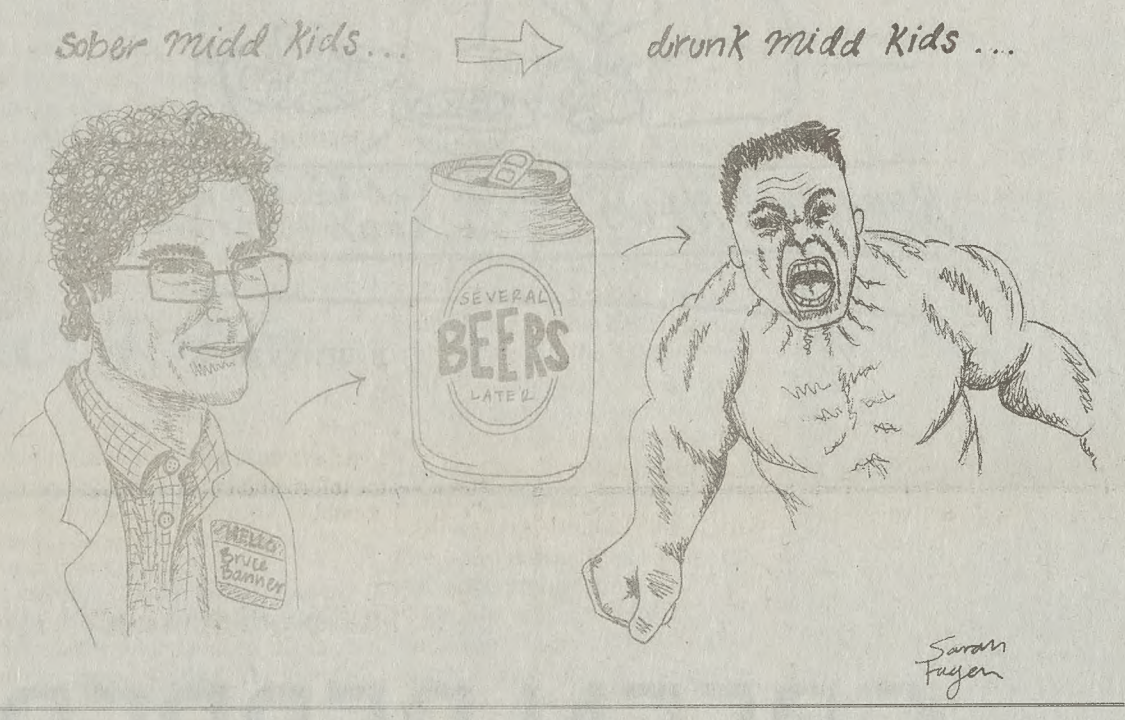
The assumption underlying all of this — that Middlebury isn't the "real world"— is not only dangerously enabling of further destruction, but unacceptably entitled. As a member of the custodial staff pointed out to one of our editors, most of the Facilities workers were here long before we were, and will be long after. For staff, faculty and parts of the student body, this campus is very much the "real world."

And so it's our job not only to respect that world while we're here, but to set a good precedent for future Middlebury generations. The extent to which underclassmen take their cues from juniors and seniors is pretty clear; this past weekend, signs were ripped down in Allen Hall, a freshman dorm. An editor was asked by her Discover Middlebury prospie if that represented "normal Middlebury culture." Does it?

Chances are you've heard the term "work hard, play hard" used to describe Middlebury culture. Students here are committed to peak academic performance and, when the week concludes, many are looking to "blow off steam" built up throughout the arduous week. This over-compartmentalized, polarized lifestyle is toxic when taken to destructive heights. Put simply, students' fundamental disrespect and consequent destruction of the places where we live, study, and socialize has gone too far and must come to an end.

This weekend is Homecoming. For alumni, it's a chance to come back to campus and reminisce about their time at Middlebury. For current students, it seems all too fitting opportunity to reflect on how we treat the school we're lucky enough to still call home.

It's time to grow up.



At very least, read the news "Pass/Fail"

notes from the desk

Ellie Eberlee '20 is The Campus' senior opinions editor.

It's week five of term and I can't name a single movie in theaters. I check the date not once, but multiple times a day. I was in Wilson Café last Friday and I heard a student ask, "So wait, what happens if they impeach him?"

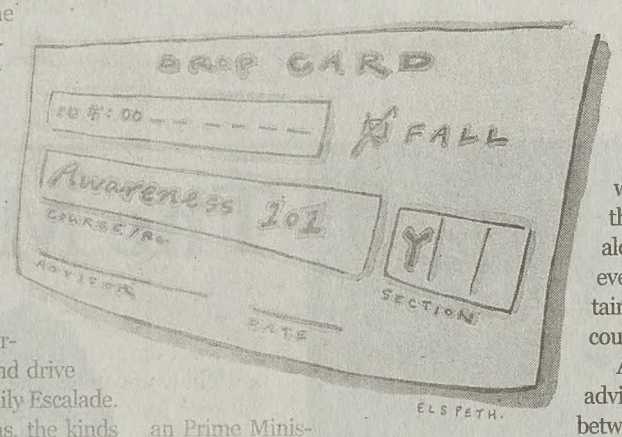
Her friend shrugged and sipped his iced coffee. A moment passed, and then:

"Hang on — they're actually trying to impeach him?"

New students, I'm sure you've noticed by now that this place has a unique ability to block out the rest of the world. The space between BiHall and the Athletic Center is like our own Odyssean land of the Lotus-eaters, with footpaths unfurling in every direction like tributaries of the river Lethe. Really, it's as though the minute we arrive in September we drudge up all knowledge of the outside world and put it in a Harry Potter-style Pensieve ... which our parents promptly pack up and drive back to Boston in the family Escalade. Sure, there are exceptions, the kinds of people who turn heads in seminars by name-dropping every new White House hire. I suspect that for a lot of us, though, our best news-reading practices fall by the wayside during term-time.

To be clear, I sympathize. In many ways, simply being at Middlebury complicates any attempt to stay in the news loop. This campus isn't exactly conducive to podcast listening (it's tiny, and in the short walk from Forest to Davis you'll run into at least four people who force you to pull out your AirPods and say hello). Print media is hard to come by; even when there were still free copies of The New York Times outside dining halls, these were picked to pieces by avid crossword doers (now, cruciverbalists have to get the app). And while articles appear from time to time in our News Feeds, we all know the only point of Facebook at college is to figure out whether the Alex you hooked up with in Munford last night is the same one in your friend's GSFS lecture.

That said, the problem with these excuses became a lot clearer to me a few weeks ago. As a Toronto native, I was surprised to overhear the Canadian Prime Minister's name while waiting in line for a Proctor panini press. A quick phone-check confirmed the worst: photos of the Liberal leader in brownface and blackface had surfaced and, in doing so, unleashed an understandable media storm.



Trudeau's past abuses of privilege aside, I was shocked. The photos were released on Wednesday. At this point, it was Saturday. How had I missed that? Not to mention — what did it say about my literal and figurative living situation that I was able to miss that?

That afternoon, I FaceTimed my dad. When we talked about Trudeau, I struggled to keep up my side of the conversation. Proper noun-phrases like "Liberal Party" and "University—Rosedale Electoral District" (for which and in which I'd worked all summer) felt foreign on my tongue.

"Will it change the way you vote?" he asked. I wasn't sure, so we switched to talking about things on the other side of the Pacific. My dad asked if I'd kept up with the protests in Hong Kong. I blushed. I hadn't.

"What are they teaching you up there, Elle-Belle?" he asked.

Not everyone finds ignorance embarrassing. I've had conversations where the phrase "oh, I don't read the news" is tossed around with relished irreverence, where obliviousness is worn as a blank badge of honor. Here, a lot of students seem to "Add/Drop" news-reading like it's a fifth, eminently dispensable elective. If I were an advisor asked to sign off on that particular course switch, I'd remind my advisee that willful ignorance is a pretty profound privilege. At Middlebury, most of us can leave the outside world alone because we're safe in the knowledge that, if we want, it'll leave us alone too. But that isn't true for everyone on campus, and it certainly isn't true for the rest of the country.

Above all else, I'd remind my advisee that there's a difference between getting an "education" and becoming world-aware. Many professors do their best to bridge that gap. Still, it's one thing to study impeachment procedures in an Axinn lecture hall, and another entirely to appreciate that those procedures are happening right now, re-molding the socio-political landscape well beyond the next row of Green Mountains. I'd suggest that this second kind of awareness holds more value than any "A."

And so it's up to us to keep the outside world close, to search out headlines and perspectives and bring them into imaginative being on College Street. I realize it takes enormous effort. But it's also enormously important — and, I'd argue, part of our duty as students at one of the best schools in the country. When I graduate in May, I'd like to re-enter a world I not only recognize, but might one day make an informed, meaningful contribution to.

Ask Tré

Tré Stephens answers the Middlebury community's burning questions.

Dear Tre,

Thoughts on the use of the n-word by Hispanics and Asians, or people from low-income communities?

— Anonymous

Hello reader,

Thank you for submitting this question to me! It's so interesting how this question keeps coming up. Well, let's dive right in, shall we?

Let me start off by saying that I think that ANYONE who is not BLACK should not say or even think about using the n-word. Now let's get into why. For y'all that don't know, let me give you a real quick history lesson. The n-word we all know and love today, (and yeah I said "we all" because y'all are fiending to use it), was derived from the n-word with a "hard 'r'" — a word used to dehumanize my ancestors, disenfranchise my people and allow bigoted white Americans to ingrain in my people a false sense of inferiority. Now, as terrifying as that must sound, my people decided to reclaim the word and make it something positive for our community. The n-word has been reclaimed and used with an "a" instead of a hard "r." It's used in the black community in many different ways; it's used as a term of endearment, a curse word and a call out in an argument. Regardless of its ambiguous meaning, however, if you are not black then don't use the word.

"But Tre, my black friends let me say the word all the time and they don't have a problem with it."

Well, I think you should find some new friends. Let me explain something to all the non-black people that will read this. Being a person of color does not and never will give you the right to say the n-word. Why? Because the word does no harm to you. When I use the n-word it's always between me and another black person, and it's usually because we are using it as a term of endearment. Y'all wanna use the word because you think it's cool, because you think it will make you better friends with us, or because you hear it in music. My advice is to just STOP. You don't get to say a word that was used against us.

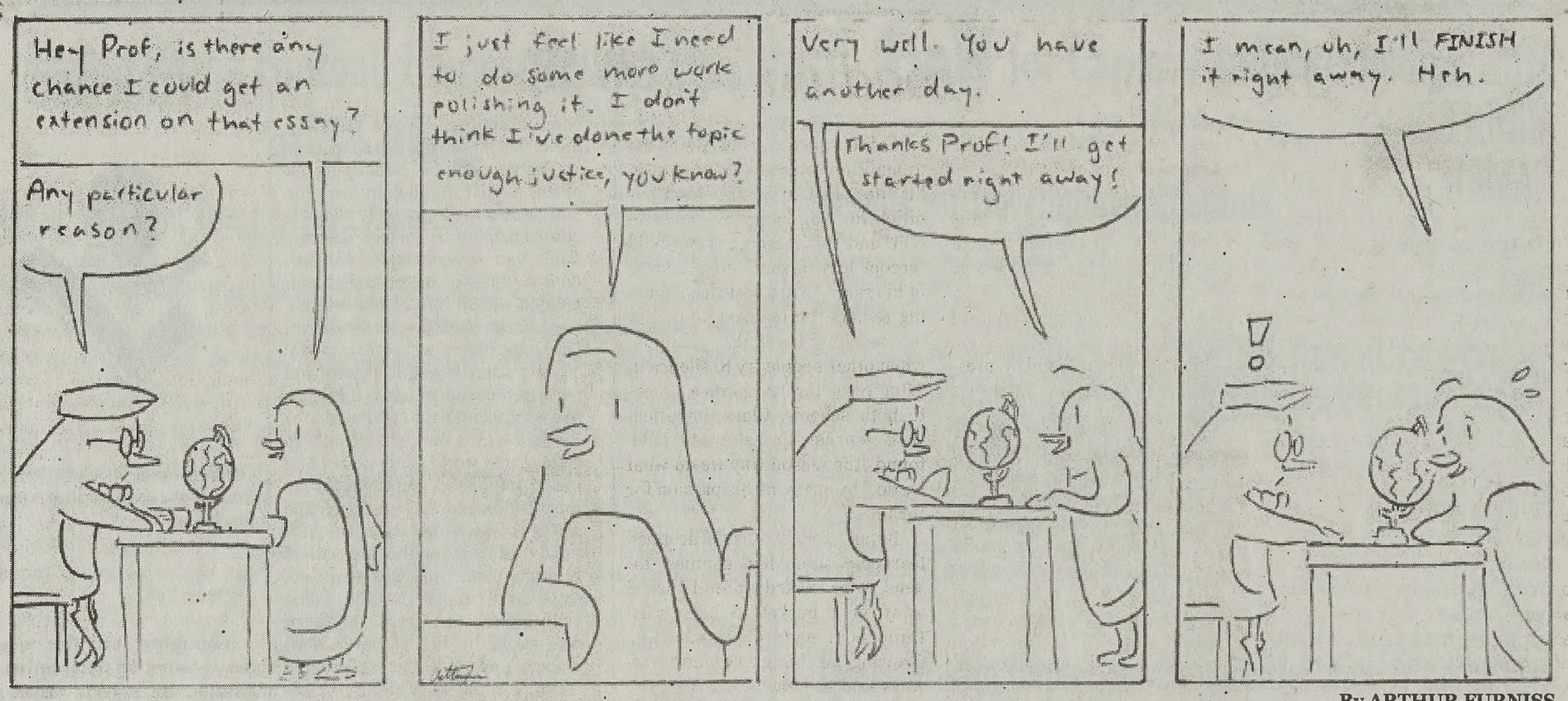
"Tre, if black people are so offended then why do y'all say it to each other?"

BECAUSE WE CAN! I shouldn't have to explain to you why using a word that my people have reclaimed is okay for us to use and not for you to use. More importantly, because you can't. I can't speak for all black people, but I personally enjoy knowing that so much reclaimed power can be held in a word, and seeing all non-black people squirm in their seats because they want to use it so badly. Well, you can't. Look, the point I'm trying to make here is that no matter what you say or how you feel, if you are not BLACK do not say the n-word. There are so many reasons why only black people are able to use the word (honestly too many to explain in a college newspaper column) but I hope this gives you the idea.

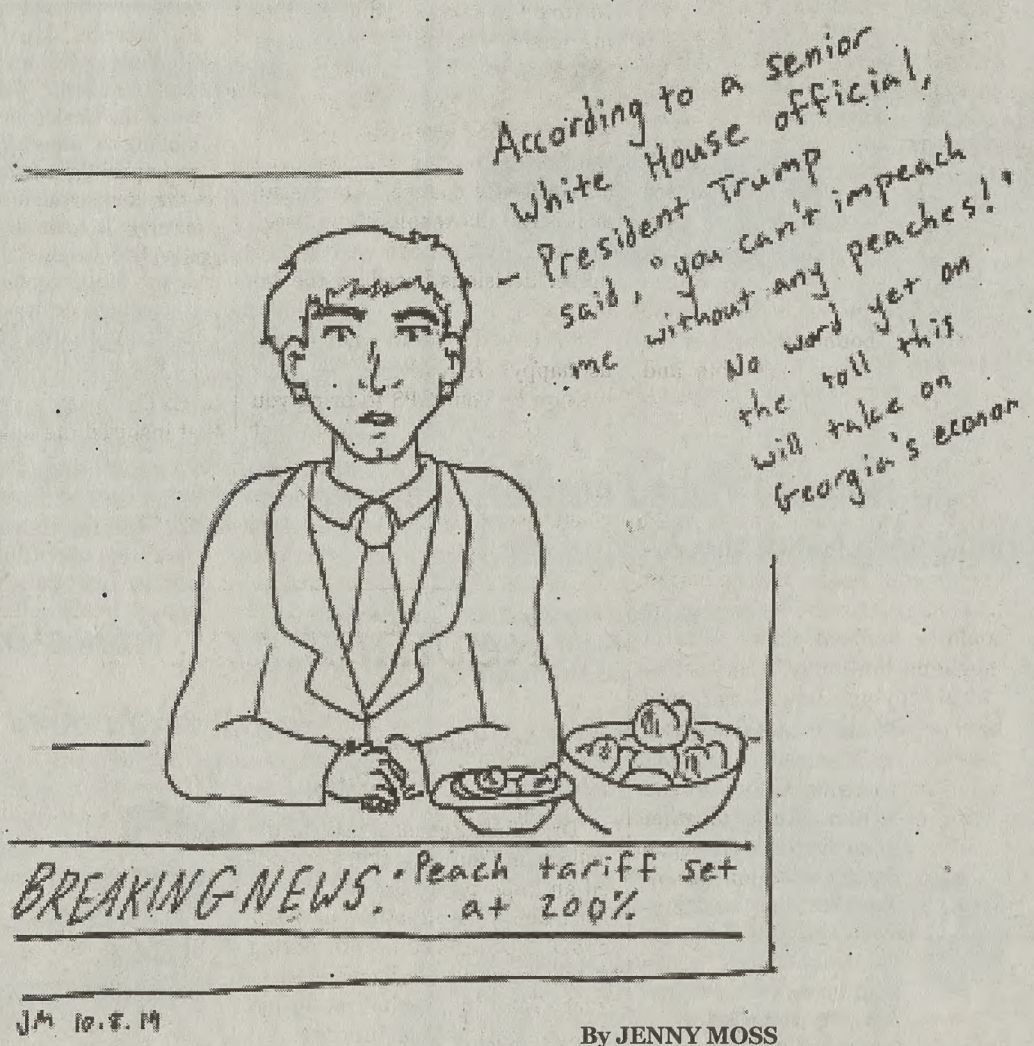
Love, Tre Stephens

As always, I look forward to my readers submitting questions to my column. If you don't know, you can submit your own questions at the go link: go/asktre/. My goal is to produce one piece every week for the entire year, so keep the questions coming.

Have opinions of your own you want to share? Send your op-eds, pitches or ideas along to eeberlee@middlebury.edu!


Hey Prof, is there any chance I could get an extension on that essay?
Any particular reason?
I just feel like I need to do some more work polishing it. I don't think I've done the topic enough justice, you know?
Very well. You have another day.
Thanks Prof! I'll get started right away!
I mean, uh, I'll FINISH it right away. Hrm.

By ARTHUR FURNISS


According to a senior White House official, - President Trump said, "you can't impeach me without any peaches!" No word yet on the toll this will take on Georgia's econom
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By JENNY MOSS

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From Baltimore to Broadway

By EDYTH MOLDOW
Contributing Writer

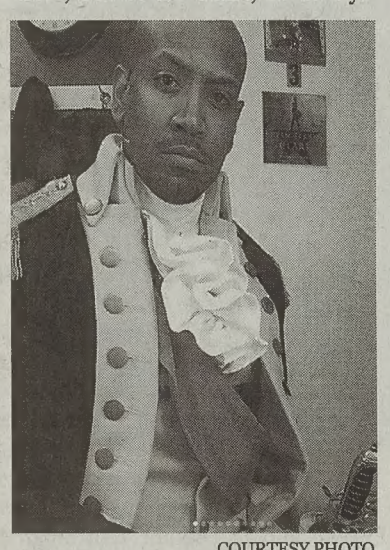
Everyone has heard the phrase "do what makes you happy." We see it in magazines, in stories our English teachers made us read and even in those Buzzfeed quizzes where we learned what we should do with our lives based off our cereal choices. But how many of us have actually managed to listen and implement this ideology in our lives? How many of us college students will go on to "do what makes us happy?" The truthful answer is too few.

Bryan Terrell Clark is proof that one can find a way to combine passion and purpose to live the equivalent of eternal summer: a life brimming with happy days. While he is most well known for his role as George Washington in the groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning Broadway musical "Hamilton," he can also be seen in numerous television shows, such as "When They See Us." On top of his hugely successful acting career, he co-founded an initiative titled inDEFINED, which works to inspire children to break free of the labels placed on them by society through exposure to the arts.

In front of an eager audience in Wilson Hall, Clark began speaking on the themes of reflection and motivation. He opened with two seemingly simple questions: "What is your passion?" and "When did you first engage with that passion?"

After a moment of contemplative quiet, everyone turned to someone near them to share their ideas. Clark pulled the scattered threads of conversations in the room back together with a reflection on his own role in "Hamilton," which he referred to as "an honor and a privilege." This eight-times-per-week "honor" was shared with the audience when he proceeded to perform George Washington's entrance, no backdrops, no backup singers and no inhibitions. "Here comes the general" indeed.

His clear passion for his everyday reality solidified in this impromptu performance, though the significance of playing George Washington lies in his love for the fact "that [George Washington] started off as a farmer and became a soldier, a general and a president, but in his heart, he always knew he was a farmer." So we see it in Clark's own life.



COURTESY PHOTO

Growing up in Baltimore, Clark began discovering his love of the arts before he could talk — he would just "bounce in front of the TV." His mother took note and knew it was "her job as guidance to foster and shape" that passion. He explained that his mother was "the angel" who taught him how to strive to be the best him he could be, while his father was "the dragon" who taught him that no matter how many times he messed up he could be resilient. "Both of them taught me how to fly," Clark said.

This "flying" didn't occur until he shook off his shy middle-school persona and became a theater major at a magnet school. There, acting gave him "access to other people," and to his voice. He began studying theater on a full scholarship at the University of Maryland, but snuck to New York City to audition for shows. A figure in his life told him he shouldn't audition for "big-name" schools like NYU and Yale, because they would "accept less of him" on the basis of his race. To get past this shocking remark, he realized he had to tap back into his inner voice even when other people try to silence it. After receiving acceptance letters to both schools, Clark embarked on a journey to Yale, where he found "the reason why we do what we do," by engaging his passion for theater.

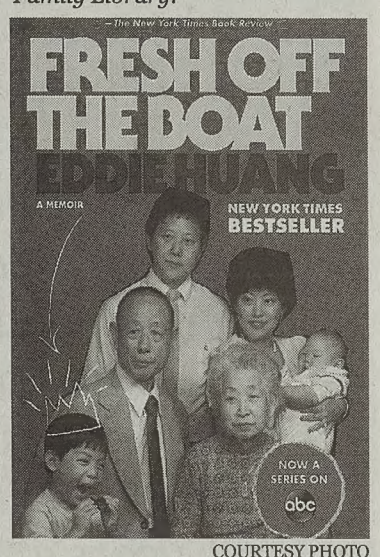
Bryan Terrell Clark dropped learned-wisdom like pennies, tokens to be picked up and tucked away in a pocket to be carried throughout one's day-to-day life. Growing up, his grandmother always said to him, "you make sure you enjoy your life." He believes that life comes with so much and we forget to enjoy it, often sacrificing ourselves for others to the point of no longer knowing ourselves. In his eyes, we "enjoy the journey" when we "find gratitude," which is the "key to abundance."We must also embrace change," Clark said, as it is the "most consistent thing" in life. Only then can we begin to make "decisions based on the inner voice."

So, how do we do what makes us happy? His advice: "let your passion be your GPS to bring you to the moments of purpose that fulfill your life." Well, then, why are we wasting time recalculating when we can just press "GO?"

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

Katrina Spencer is a Literatures & Cultures Librarian in the Davis Family Library.



COURTESY PHOTO

Within the last five years, how many works of literature have you read by Asian American authors? Okay, the last 10 years? You've already proven my point. If you can name more than two, please come to the Research Desk and claim your free bookmark. I am embarrassed by how few works I've cherished/encountered/spent time with/consumed by Asian Americans — not only within the last year but in life. So my approach to Eddie Huang's work, the same that inspired the television series, was quite an intentional one. The work delivered — and more than I could imagine.

Huang's back story is extraordinary. There's so much narrative wrapped inside him. He is a restaurant owner, a law school graduate, a felon, a former drug dealer, a first generation son of Taiwanese/Chinese parents, a die-hard hip-hop and basketball fan, a bilingual, an international traveler, a salesman, a comedian, a foodie and, of course, a writer. His memoir takes readers on a ~27-year journey in which he tries to fit into a society that is rather bent on rejecting him. On his path, readers encounter the foods that accompanied him on his journey from childhood to adulthood, as the work, too, is a culinary adventure.

There is also a strong infusion of music. From a very young age, Huang adored hip hop, its verses and its messages, yet it was his arrival on a college campus that introduced him to formulaic deconstructions of rhetoric combined with exposure to black feminist thought that made him a writer. Navigating college campus culture was a dangerous roller coaster for him, but he found mentors who believed in him and he made it out alive. I'd recommend this work to hip-hop heads, any college student who finds college ill-fitting and to those who adore food cultures.

For similar works, see MK Asante's "Buck: A Memoir" or Anthony Bourdain's "Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly." For throwbacks of similar sounds, see Tamia or Myá.

Revitilizing indigenous languages

By EMMA AUER
Contributing Writer

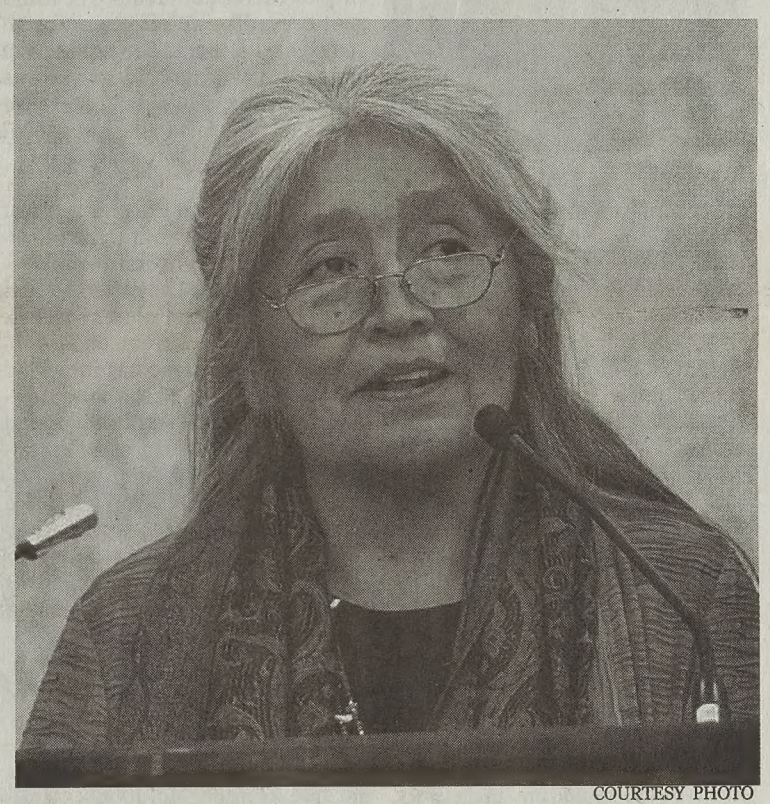
Dr. Ofelia Zepeda's visit to the college on Thursday, Oct. 3 provided an opportunity for students to learn about the vital work of indigenous language educators during a talk entitled "Indigenous Language Teaching, Revitalization and Maintenance in the International Year of Indigenous Languages." To begin her talk, Zepeda thanked listeners for their presence in her first language of Tohono O'odham, a Native American language from southwestern United States, before speaking in English for the rest of the presentation.

Zepeda is the recipient of a MacArthur Genius Award and a Regents' Professor of Linguistics and Native American studies at the University of Arizona in Tucson, not far from the Tohono O'odham lands where she grew up. Associate Professor of Anthropology Marybeth Nevins, who organized the event, introduced Zepeda as "a linguist, a poet, a literary editor, a teacher, a language policy expert and a builder of indigenous language infrastructure."

This infrastructure, as Nevins elaborated, includes her authorship of "the only pedagogical grammar of Tohono O'odham, a text that she still teaches regularly." As an integral scholar in the field of linguistics and Indigenous Language education, Nevins said the Anthropology department was "deeply honored to have her."

This year in particular is important for Zepeda's field. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) dedicated 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL). Zepeda outlined UNESCO's goals for the year, which, as she stated, are "to raise awareness of indigenous languages, to mobilize stakeholders, to mobilize resources, and to preserve and promote indigenous languages."

Zepeda delved specifically into the work being done at the University of Arizona, specifically at the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI), an organization she co-founded in 1978 and continues to direct today. At AILDI, indigenous language educators, linguists, poets and writers develop curricula and skills they then bring back to their communities in order to promote language learning. Zepeda structured her talk around her organization's work in Arizona, illustrating AILDI's impact on maintaining the legacy of indigenous languages and meeting the objectives that IYIL set out.



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Regents' Professor of Linguistics and Native American studies at the University of Arizona Ofelia Zepeda gave a talk on the importance of preserving indigenous languages.

To support and promote indigenous languages, for example, her organization provides its students with "culturally relevant" curricula and tools that they themselves design for their own communities, such as a digital mapping program that provides context for certain cultural sites.

AILDI also recognizes the need for "teachers who carry cultural knowledge with them," and thus includes indigenous elders as an integral part of instruction. To mobilize resources and stakeholders, Zepeda added that AILDI seeks to understand the needs of each student, recognizing that they come from diverse backgrounds with different language circumstances.

This diversity in language endangerment was an important nuance that Zepeda discussed, stating that not all language communities are the same or are experiencing the same level of language attrition. She announced that "language revitalization is a lifetime commitment," often without praise, and that all people, even non-speakers, are an important part of the effort. She ended her speech with a note on the English language, urging listeners to rethink the "role and value" we all place on this language, and to understand that there are other languages in our state, country and world.

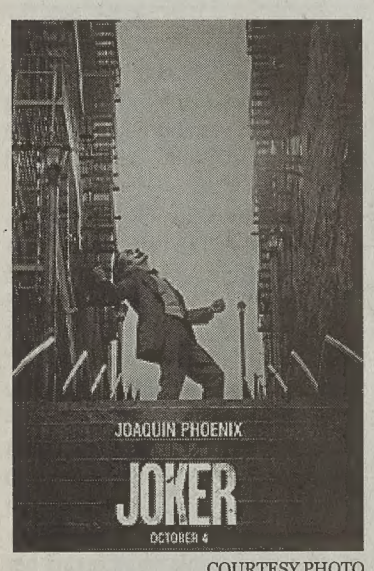
"They're all here," Zepeda said, "and they all need to be valued."

Reel Critic: Joker

By JOHN VAALER
Staff Writer

If you were not a fan of lighthearted fluff like "No Country For Old Men" (2007) or "Manchester By The Sea" (2016), then "Joker" (2019) is the movie for you.

Directed by Todd Phillips, "Joker" has zero levity. There is only one scene that does not immediately turn you into Eeyore of the Hun-



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dred-Acre-Wood, and that segment is still really creepy. In it, Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix) — who becomes the titular Batman antagonist — dances with his ailing mother (Frances Conroy). Arthur grins while he sways his thin frame, leading his mother across the living room of their dingy apartment. Happy times.

"Joker" is irrefutably an artistic success. The movie seamlessly acts as a comic book film and art house character study, and Joaquin Phoenix gives a gut-wrenchingly committed lead performance. "Joker" is also the third best film of 2019 so far. (In my opinion Tarantino's "Once Upon A Time In Hollywood" still towers, closely followed by Nisha Ganatra's witty, woefully underrated "Late Night.")

But one cannot entirely recommend "Joker." Watching the film is like sitting through Richard Wagner's 15-hour "Ring Cycle." Yes, Wagner's music is beautiful, but such an ordeal drains the body and soul. To appreciate the undeniable power of "Joker," one has to watch two hours of sadness, gore, topsy-turvydom and rage. Take it or leave it.

"Joker" is set sometime in the 1980s. In the first scene, we see Arthur working as a clown-for-hire at a garage sale. He holds up a sign that reads "Everything Must Go." A green wig and pale makeup envelop his face, giving him a vampiric mein. Cars, rats and floating garbage dart across the screen.

Arthur's "Everything Must Go" sign gets stolen by some teenagers. He rushes after them in his large clown shoes, panting. The teenagers then attack Arthur and leave him lying in an alleyway. He laughs while crying, seemingly amused by his own torment. Everything Must Go.

Phillips thus establishes his protagonist: Arthur is one of Gotham's meek who have not inherited the earth. He also has an odd mental condition — uncontrollable laughter. This tick proves to be a challenge for his career in stand-up comedy. Another problem is Arthur's sense of humor. "Don't you have to be funny to be a comedian?" asks his mother.

Arthur worships talk show host Murray Franklin (Robert De Niro), whose show he hopes to one day appear on. His sick mother stays at home, rambling all day about how she used to work for Gotham billionaire Thomas Wayne. Mother and son have spent their whole lives looking up to television icons. Arthur now wants to become a star.

So he gets a handgun.

After that, "Joker" gets quite gory. Arthur's first murders are in self-defense, but his crimes slowly escalate in their moral dubiousness. In becoming the Joker, Arthur gives away his soul, losing the audience's sympathy.

"Joker" is based off of an antagonist created in 1940, but the movie focuses on the villains of 2019.

Phoenix has always liked to play things large and loud, projecting emotions with body language rather than diction. His over-the-top style works perfectly in "Joker." When Arthur takes a long drag of a cigarette after a shockingly violent deed, Phoenix contorts his stomach and cheeks. The actor thus suggests a bleak metaphor: for Arthur, killing is an addictive stimulant. Subtlety be darned — Phoenix is a rockstar in "Joker."

The supporting cast and crew of "Joker" give solid performances. Robert De Niro shines in two scenes as Arthur's idol Murray Franklin. The film's best scene is when Franklin gives an unexpected rebuttal to Arthur on live-television. One cannot look away from two great actors like De Niro and Phoenix trading barbs, clearly having a ball.

Despite her limited screen time, Zazie Beetz deftly plays Sophie, Arthur's love interest. Her role highlights one of "Joker's" most unsettling motifs: the female characters are really cursory. Arthur's mother and his two female therapists scoff and complain, but only the men in "Joker" interest Arthur.

Lawrence Sher's cinematography highlights the grunginess of Gotham. In a particularly stunning shot, we watch in slow-motion as Arthur dances on a city street puddle, splashing water onto his emerald hair. He leaps up and down, playing an imaginary guitar. Sher portrays this silly jig like a war dance.

Aside from Phoenix, the best contributor in "Joker" is Hildur Guðnadóttir, who composed the film's mournful score. We always hear a cello strum lightly, even while carnage covers the frame. Arthur might start out as a petty loser, but Guðnadóttir's score suggests an underlying logic to his evil.

Filmgoers will inevitably compare Phoenix's interpretation of the Joker with Heath Ledger's in "The Dark Knight" (2008). In that film, the Joker blows up buildings with chaotic glee, turning Gotham into a smokey rubble. Ledger's villain is a terrorist.

A decade after "The Dark Knight," Phoenix gives us an equally timely interpretation of the Joker. Arthur is an unreliable narrator — the last act of the film might be "fake news." All we know for sure

is that Arthur starts and ends the story as a thin-skinned, media-obsessed narcissist. "Joker" is based off of an antagonist created in 1940, but the movie focuses on the villains of 2019.

Novelist Katherine Arden '11 on embracing the unknown

By SOFIA MAKAROVA
Staff Writer

"The important things in your life," Katherine Arden '11 said, "happen when you say, 'screw it, let's do it.'" Arden and I sat in the Adirondack chairs by McCullough on one of the last warm days in Middlebury, which comes about two months earlier than in many other places. Arden, a current Middlebury resident, is no stranger to this phenomenon. The national best-selling author, with five published novels and six more on the way, had no idea that post-Midd life would include being a full-time novelist.

Her plan was to take time off, get a masters degree in interpretation, and eventually work for the U.N. That path couldn't be more different from the one she's on now. Recounting her fascinating detour, Arden said that she worked on a farm in Hawaii with World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF) during her free time. "I got bored farming so I started writing a book," she said. "I enjoyed it and decided to put the interpreting on hold to finish the book, and I sold it to a publisher as part of a trilogy." Arden's first book, "The Bear and The Nightingale," was published in 2017, and the series' second and third installments were published in the two years that followed. More recently, Arden has written two children's books titled "Small Spaces" (2018) and "Dead Voices" (2019).

"It's been super rewarding and I enjoy the freedom, the traveling and making stuff up for a living," Arden said.

Of course, as a college student, I was curious about how Arden's Middlebury education had impacted her career. Arden graduated with a degree in Russian and French. She recalled using what she learned in class to "seed" her first novel, which is set in Russia. "I guess trying to create an authentic sense of a place is challenging, and it helps to have been there and to have studied it," she said.

"You don't have to know everything right away and make decisions right away," she said. "The achievements will still be there, the advanced degree will still be there if you take two or three years and just discover."

On the topic of practicality and stability in career choice, Arden said that she is the only one of her friends to pursue the same career path since leaving college. "Everyone tries different stuff, everyone goes back for a second degree, everyone tries to make it work in this weird 21st-century economy," she said. "It's important to make decisions based off what is right for you. You can't think, 'This career won't give me security,' because, well, it has for me. Professionally, financially... spiritually. It's been a good and stable career. You never know, and there's so much self-motivation involved."

Cognizant of the pressure that students feel to have their futures mapped out, Arden offered words of advice. "One thing that happens in college is that you have this sense that 'I must hurry, I must decide, I must not get behind everyone else — the sense of a rush. In reality, when you're 21 you have so much time; you have tons of time. Take a year off, go be a ski bum in Colorado. Do what I did and go work on a farm in Hawaii. You don't have to know everything right away and make decisions right away," she said. "The achievements will still be there, the advanced degree will still be there if you take two or three years and just discover."

This leads us to another monumental influence in Katherine's life: travel.

Already having spent a year in France and Russia before coming to the college, Arden returned to France and Russia in her junior year abroad. Before returning to Vermont, she farmed in Hawaii on two separate occasions, worked as a teaching assistant in the French Alps and backpacked across the world. "Traveling is important. It's how you grow and learn about places that aren't your place," she said. "And it's more than just being a tourist. It means going and trying to live somewhere else. Just going and looking at the Eiffel Tower isn't going to make a difference," she said. "Life surprises you, I didn't expect to come back to Vermont. But I did, and it ended up being home." According to Arden, it was travel that gave her confidence in herself and her purpose.

It's easy to get caught up in the culture we establish on this campus. It's even easier to get caught up in the opinions of others — on our goals, our majors, our summer plans. But coming from someone who has been in our Blundstones, who has hiked up the same Snake Mountain and found success in doing what she loves every day, I ask that you don't take her advice too lightly.

"Take advantage of the freedom while you have it," Arden said. "Because you will eventually have responsibilities, and then it gets harder to keep exploring. You might discover weird life curve balls, like being a novelist."

Patton's Midd Moment

By MELANIE CHOW
Contributing Writer

COURTESY PHOTO

"People are obsessed with Middlebury" — even and especially after they leave the college, according to Professor of the Practice Erin Davis. As a co-producer of "Midd Moment," along with Juliette Luini '18.5 she's encountered a fair number of Middlebury fans. "For a lot of alumni ," she said, "this is a real part of their identity."

The first episode of "Midd Moment" was released on Monday, Oct. 7. "Midd Moment" is a new podcast hosted by Laurie Patton in an effort to connect with the Middlebury alumni community. In the brief introduction to the podcast, Patton explains that many alumni are interested in "a direct link to the Middlebury community." The podcast features a different guest each week, including professors, alumni and other people with connections to Middlebury. In addition to Middlebury Magazine, the podcast is another outlet for alumni to connect with the Middlebury community. "When you're not here anymore or on one of Middlebury's campuses, directly participating in Middlebury, they miss it," Davis said.

Davis explained that the podcast aims to "continue to give people access to the stuff that you miss once you leave Middlebury." When asked about student interest in the podcast, she said that it is geared toward alumni so she is uncertain how current students will respond to it, but hopes that they will listen to it and see what they think.

According to Davis, something she has taken away from producing the podcast is how much the college has given so many alumni. "There're just people doing really cool stuff, who went to school here," Davis said. "It's really made clear to me what Middlebury has to offer. It's an incredible springboard."

Producing "Midd Moment" was a humbling experience, Davis said. As a Professor of the Practice at the college, Davis sees students pushing themselves academically "to the limit every day," but hopes that they will develop skills that help them make a difference in the world.

"[Podcasts] have the potential to make you feel connected, to make you learn something new, or to feel something new by the time the podcast ends," Davis said. She hopes that this will ring true for "Midd Moment" as well.

When planning the podcast, Davis said that they were considering how to make it more appealing to current students, yet it did not seem like an effective way to engage with them. The production team threw around ideas such as interviewing students, but those ideas all "felt false, like old people trying to appeal to young people," Davis said.

Davis said that the producers of "Midd Moment" want to be representative of the diversity of alumni career paths. They tried to find a diverse group of alumni to talk to about their current endeavors and how the college has impacted their work. One of the interviewees, Bianca Giaever '12.5, found success immediately after graduating, and now, several years later, continues to develop her voice in the film and radio world. Koby Altman '04, the general manager of the Cleveland Cavaliers, spent years coaching after he graduated from Midd. Another alumna, Julia Alvarez '71, has been publishing successful novels for over 30 years.

The first episode featured Environmental Studies Scholar in Residence Bill McKibben. McKibben, one of the world's leading environmentalists, opens the episode by saying "I'm not convinced that there's any institution in the world that's produced more people doing more interesting things in the environmental world than Middlebury." President Patton and McKibben discuss the college's environmental initiatives, including the Energy 2028 plan and the college's plan to divest completely from fossil fuels. Patton asks McKibben what he thinks needs to be done to change people and institutions to actively and effectively combat climate change and hey discuss the importance of individual responsibility and group action. According to McKibben, the key to effective action is in "individuals deciding to become a little less individual and joining together in movements large enough to make some difference."

"I hope it scratches the itch that alumni feel to be reconnected to Middlebury," Davis said. "So I hope that they can read the magazine and feel connected, I hope they can listen to the podcast and feel connected, I think it's just another way for people to connect."

This season of the podcast features 11 episodes with different guests each week. The podcast airs on Mondays.

Love Stinks...and your prince isn't coming

By EMILY THOMPSON
Contributing Writer

"I have a confession: I am a true romantic. I fervently believe in happily ever after and true love always," Professor Laurie Essig of the Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies (GSFS) Department read to supporters of her newest book, "Love, Inc."

"I am also a cynic," Essig said. "I have a sinking feeling that romance blinds us with fairy dust."

The audience of college students and Vermonters gathered at Stonecutter Spirits on Friday, Oct. 4, for "Love Stinks: 80s Rock Ballads + Laurie Essig's Love Inc.," an evening in which Essig deconstructed the "romantic industrial complex." It seemed fitting that the event was held at a local, female-owned business that also temporarily houses a female-owned vintage pop-up shop called Reel Vintage. Co-hosted by Womensafe and Planned Parenthood NNE, the event sought to envision the feminist future Essig advocates for in "Love, Inc."

Situated between barrels of gin and whiskey and racks of vintage clothing, Essig imparted her argument to the Blundstone-donned audience: the further capitalism drives the world towards environmental, economic and political chaos, the more society is driven towards the romance industry as a coping mechanism.

She began her argument with a tale of matrimony rendered sensational due to the then-modern technology of the mid-19th century. Queen Victoria's white wedding was the first of its kind to become popularized by telegraph, a technology that allowed for the beginning of a cultural obsession with white virginal dresses, wedding rings and the tale of happily-ever-afters. Essig fast-forwarded to the 20th century era of Reaganomics (where all roads seem to lead), which was born amidst the global fascination (read: distraction) with Princess Diana and Prince Charles's elaborate white wedding in 1981.

Instead of critiquing trickle-down economics and consequently engaging in productive civil discourse, as Essig might have preferred, the American public was being sold an idea of romantic bliss only made possible with the purchase of a wedding priced at — on average — $32,641 as of 2016. She notes that we continue to drug ourselves with romantic falsehoods to this day. Deconstructing the "dream[s] about a land of (white) plenty" in bestselling romance novels like "Twilight" and "Fifty Shades of Grey," Essig argued that these books teach readers to value the attainment of unrealistically wealthy, white, heterosexual lifestyles.

Essig did not eschew "romantic" connection itself but rather urged the emotional and spiritual connection with another human being to be the foundation for positive change. She encouraged people to focus on this concept of love as opposed to false, purchased marital harmony that distracts us and drains our wallets. When asked by an audience member how to combat capitalism through our romantic lives, Essig jokingly responded,"Canvassing together works really well."

On a more serious note, however, Essig urged her audience to not mistake her for propagating singleness and apathy as cures to this phenomenon, nor does she believe that wallowing in scientific projections of the climate crisis is a productive use of our time and mental capacity. "A future is possible — that's the most romantic thing you can think." Essig encouraged the audience to realize that the romantic future we all desire cannot be achieved just by spending an average of $2,379 on fresh flowers for their wedding celebration.

SADIE HOUSBERG/ THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Professor Laurie Essig deconstructed our society's conventional ideas about romance at an evening at Stonecutter Spirits, a female-owned business.

"I don't see love or intimacy as a withdrawal from the world, but rather as a way to find someone to confront the hardships of the world with," audience member Christian Kummer '22 said." Kummer pointed out that love — not necessarily even romance — can distract from civic engagement. He referenced obstacles of domestic life like laundry and errands — as reasons people often withdraw from the public sphere and advocated for healthy relationships that foster

SADIE HOUSBERG/ THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

political action.

Of course, arriving at a place where one can think critically about public narratives and begin to dispel the tales of happily-ever-afters that drench our society is not simple.

One audience member who identified herself as the mother of a preteen attended Essig's event as an avid opposer to the romance ideology, and said she actively works to counteract the powerful effects of "the Machine" that has made so much of our society numb and oblivious. In her household, her daughter doesn't have a phone and is not allowed access to television. As a mother, the audience member tries to instill positive body image messages like encouraging her daughter to ask herself "What does [my] body need?" instead of succumbing to the pressures of mass media that sell fairy tales of what bodies look like to impressionable youth and adults alike.

While navigating romantic relationships is ultimately personal and these decisions are different for everyone, Essig stressed that this personal experience is fundamentally political and collective as well. She writes, "in that happy ending we ride off into the future not with our prince or princess to a castle on the hill, but with each other, all of us — married, single, straight, gay, old, young, white and black and Latino/a and more — fighting harder than we have ever fought before for a collective future."

DON'T MISS THIS

Eleanor Roosevelt & the Drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Professor Blanche Wiesen Cook will lecture on the role that Eleanor Roosevelt, former First Lady and global activist, played in the creation of this important UN declaration. Cook is an award-winning biographer of Roosevelt; her lecture will provide details about Roosevelt's life and humanitarian work after her time in the White House and will also consider the broader meaning of the UDHR today.
Thursday 10/10, 7 p.m., Mead Chapel

Heath Quartet

The acclaimed Heath Quartet returns to help us celebrate Beethoven's 250th birth year. They present Beethoven's entire string quartet cycle over six concerts (two each term), bookending weeklong residencies with our campus and community.

Friday 10/11, 7:30 p.m. Mahaney Arts Center, Olin C. Robison Concert Hall

Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project: When Birds Refused to Fly

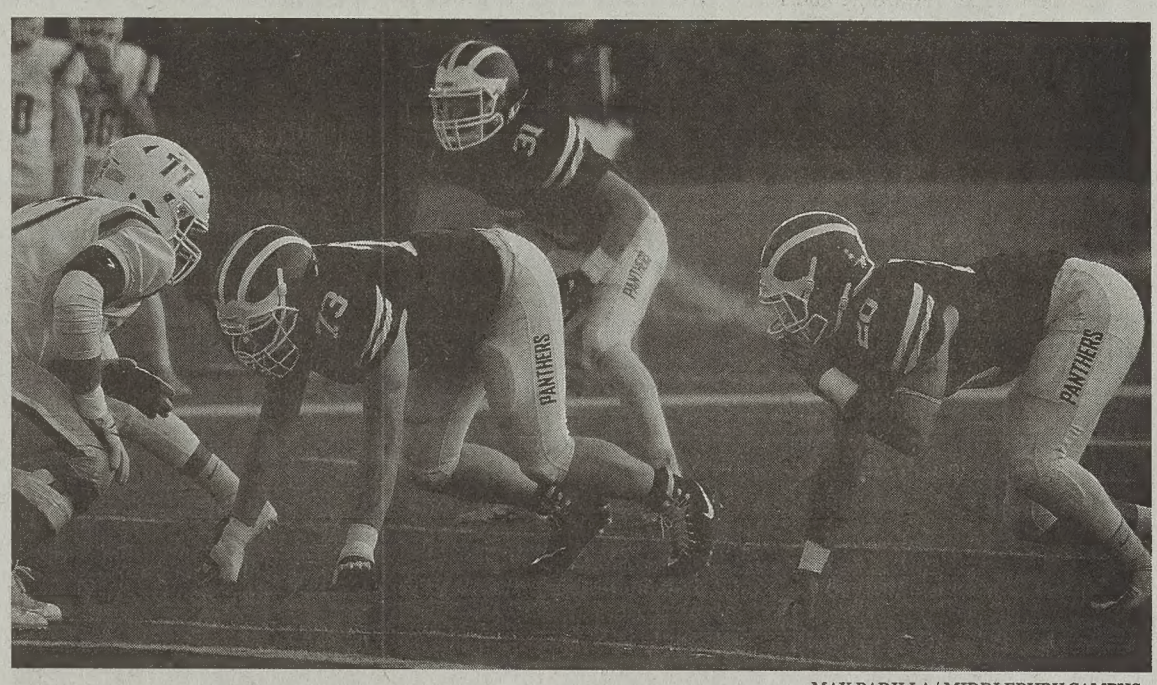
Choreographed by Olivier Tarpaga and set to the music of Orchestre Super Volta, When Birds Refused to Fly is a dance theatre piece that explores multiple facets of generational transformation, culturally and geographically. The performance examines what it is to build up and break down in the name of change. Tickets: $15/12/8/6

Saturday 10/12 7:30 p.m., Mahaney Arts Center Dance Theatre

This week in sports

Double trouble: Midd beats Amherst in double overtime thriller

By LAUREN BOYD
Sports Writer



MAX PADILLA/ MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Middlebury football team won a close battle of 34–28 against the Amherst Mammoths in overtime, on Saturday, Sept. 5, maintaining its undefeated season. Prior to the game, both teams were undefeated, making this win a decisive factor in NESCAC standings. The Panthers now co-lead the conference alongside Wesleyan, who is still undefeated on the season.

The game's excitement started with a Middlebury interception on the Mammoth's first offensive drive. **Kevin Hartley '20** got the Middlebury fans onto their feet with the first defensive turnover on the game. This thrilling atmosphere would keep the Panthers's momentum going throughout the subsequent three quarters, through a rollercoaster of emotions.

Middlebury started off going 21–0 against the Mammoths, thanks to a rushing touchdown from **Alex Maldjian '23** and passing touchdowns by **Will Jernigan '21** to **Maxim Bochman '20** and **Frank Cosolito '20**. After one Amherst touchdown, but two key Middlebury defensive stops right before the half, the momentum was still in the Panthers' favor. The fans, excited and on their feet, could feel a win within reach.

A complete momentum shift at the second half enabled Amherst to tie the game, 28–28. Motivated to extend their win streak, and overcome a consistently tough NESCAC competitor, the Panther offense trudged down the field with one minute left on the clock. Less than 10 yards from the goal line, and seconds left on the clock, a shocking Mammoth interception led the game into overtime.

During overtime, both teams failed to convert a field goal or touchdown in their first attempts. Tensions were high as the teams switched sides, both looking to maintain their undefeated seasons.

After the Amherst squad could not score during its second OT attempt, the Panthers had a shot to claim the game. On third down, Jernigan escaped a Mammoth defensemen, rolled to the right side, and connected with **Maxwell Rye '20** for a nine-yard touchdown. The fans both near and afar erupted into cheers as the team piled in the endzone, keeping the winning streak alive and exciting.

"It was one of the best games I've been a part of," offensive lineman **Colin Paskewitz '21** said when asked about the atmosphere of the game, "Throughout the second half when they began to come back, our fans and our bench stayed loud and hopeful. By the second overtime, I was as tired as I've ever been during a game. On the last play, [Jernigan] tossed the ball up to [Rye] and it felt like the ball had been in the air for an eternity before [Rye] came down with it. Immediately our bench rushed the field."

The electric atmosphere of such a close battle was felt both at the Amherst stadium, and with the fans back at home.

"Words cannot describe the sense of pride and joy I felt after such a resilient win," Paskewitz said.

Jack Pistorius '21 was awarded NESCAC defensive player of the week, accumulating 13 tackles. **Kevin Hartley '20**, **Michael Carr '20**, **Zander Bailey '21** and **Finn Muldoon '23** each recorded an interception in the game, respectively.

Next week, on Saturday, Oct. 12, the Panthers will be back at home against Colby College (0-4) for an exciting homecoming weekend. Although the Panthers were elated with the results of the game, they know there is more to be done.

"It's been an electric atmosphere," Linebacker **Pete Huggins '21** said about the feeling of winning such an intense game. "Winning a game like that after working the entire offseason is such a rewarding feeling. At the same time, we know we've got more wood to chop. Our goal going into the season wasn't to beat Amherst. Our goal is to win a championship."

WOMEN'S GOLF PLACES THIRD AT CONFERENCE QUALIFIER

COURTESY PHOTO

By MICHAEL SEGEL
Sports Writer

This past weekend, the Middlebury women's golf team was one of six teams competing in the NESCAC Qualifier/Williams Fall Invitational at the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass. After day one of the action, the host Williams led with 312 strokes, Amherst followed with 318, and Middlebury ranked third with 326. On Saturday, **Katie Murphy '23** led the squad by shooting a 77 which ranked her tied for second overall. **Blake Yaccino '20** shot second best on the team with an 80 which ranked her as tied for seventh overall. **Chloe Levins '20**, after taking medalist honors last weekend, finished in 12th with an 81.

On Sunday, the girls were unable to reverse their luck, remaining in third place and finishing at 309 strokes for the day. These results put them at 635 overall behind Williams (619) and Amherst (624), but in front of Hamilton (679), Bowdoin (694) and Trinity (898). Murphy led the squad again, finishing with 75 strokes to put her at a 152 and third overall. Levins finished next on the squad with 159 (seventh overall), then Yaccino with 160 (ninth), rounded out by **Kayla Li '23** (164, T12) and **Lizzie Kenter '23** (178, 22nd).

It was a tough end to a very successful fall season in which the Panthers never finished below third place in any of their five tournaments and which featured memorable moments such as the squad's first place finish at the Phinney Golf Classic last weekend where Levins finished first overall.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS DIVIDE AND CONQUER

BENJY RENTON / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JORDAN HOWELL
Sports Writer

Saturday, Oct. 5 featured two races for the Panthers: the Keene State Invitational and the Paul Short Invitational.

In the Keene State Invitational, the men came in fifth place. Their top runner was **Max Cluss '23** who got eighth place with a time of 26:32.5. In the Paul Short Invitational, the men got 37th place. The top finisher was **Henry Fleming '20** with a time of 24:50.9, leading him to place 142nd.

In the Keene State Invitational, the women captured sixth place. A crucial finisher was **Leah Metzger '20** who place 34th with a time of 19:36.2. In the Paul Short Invitational, the women netted seventh place. **Cassie Kearney '22** was the top runner for the Panthers as a time of 21:30.8 got her 14th place.

The Panthers' next challenge will be the Connecticut College Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 19. The team will have some extra time to prepare for the Invitational. Afterward, the teams will focus on championships.

WOMEN'S SOCCER BLANKS BATES

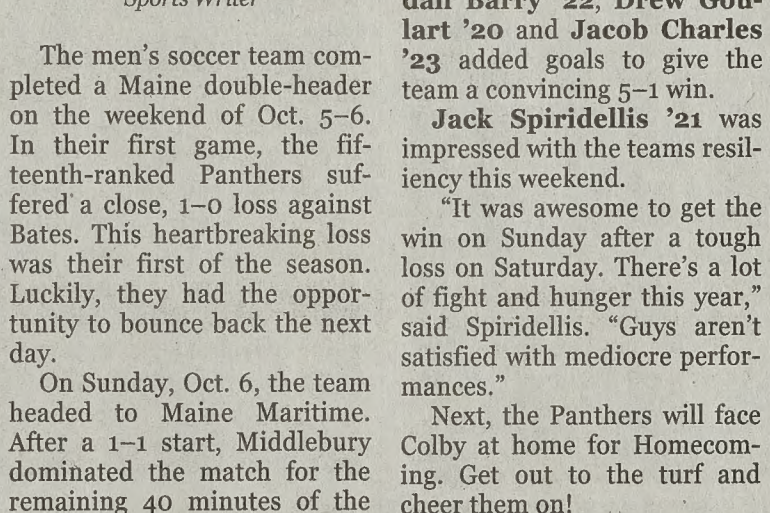
By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

Second-ranked women's soccer defeated Bates College by a score of 5–0 on the road on Saturday, Oct. 5th. Midfielder **Gretchen McGrath '21** began the offensive beatdown when she scored during the ninth minute. Forward **Simone Ameer '21** made two consecutive goals at the 32nd and 44th minutes, while **Quinn Rogers '23** and **Ellie Greenberg '20** tallied goals at the 60th and 75th minutes, respectively.

As always, the Panthers' defense denied any opportunities to catch up. Bates attempted only three shots on goal, whereas Middlebury had 21. **Ursula Alwang '20** and **Eva Shaw '21** shared goaltender responsibilities and each recorded one save.

The Panthers, however, committed eight fouls penalties compared to Bates' four.

The squad will get back in action against Colby in a homecoming contest this weekend at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12th. The Mules sit at 1–4–2 in the conference compared to the Panthers' 4–0–1.



BENJY RENTON / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

MEN'S SOCCER SUFFERS FIRST LOSS, SPLITS WEEKEND

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Sports Writer

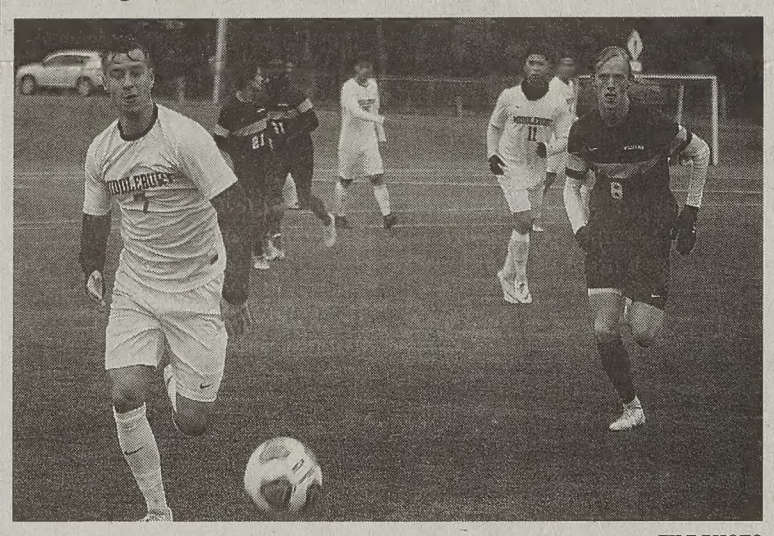
The men's soccer team completed a Maine double-header on the weekend of Oct. 5–6. In their first game, the fifteenth-ranked Panthers suffered a close, 1–0 loss against Bates. This heartbreaking loss was their first of the season. Luckily, they had the opportunity to bounce back the next day.

On Sunday, Oct. 6, the team headed to Maine Maritime. After a 1–1 start, Middlebury dominated the match for the remaining 40 minutes of the game. **Ben Powers '23**, **Brendan Barry '22**, **Drew Goulart '20** and **Jacob Charles '23** added goals to give the team a convincing 5–1 win.

Jack Spiridellis '21 was impressed with the teams resiliency this weekend.

"It was awesome to get the win on Sunday after a tough loss on Saturday. There's a lot of fight and hunger this year," said Spiridellis. "Guys aren't satisfied with mediocre performances."

Next, the Panthers will face Colby at home for Homecoming. Get out to the turf and cheer them on!

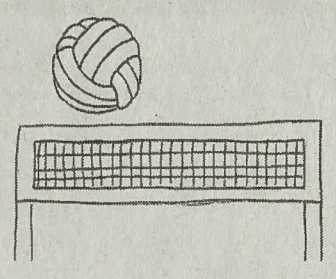


FILE PHOTO

PANTHERS AT PLAY: 2019 HOCO LINEUP

FRIDAY

7 PM
Volleyball vs Wesleyan
Memorial Field House
Pepin Gymnasium



SATURDAY

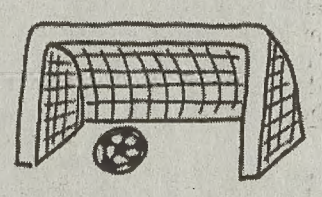
11 AM
Women's Soccer vs Colby
Dragone Track/Field

12 PM
Field Hockey vs Colby
Peter Kohn Field

12 PM
Men's Soccer vs Colby
South Street Fields

1 PM
Football vs Colby
Alumni Stadium

2 PM
Volleyball vs Connecticut College
Memorial Field House
Pepin Gymnasium



CARTOONS BY SARAH FAGAN

Celebrating the magic of competition, Middlebury Quidditch hosts fall classic

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

MAX PADILLA / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Midd Quidditch dominated Saturday, winning all their matches in group play and reaching the championship.

While a crisp, chilly air confirmed the presence of fall on campus, the shouts, cheers and music emanating from Battell Beach signaled the arrival of another yearly event: the Middlebury Classic Quidditch Festival. Wizards and witches from RPI, UVM, Harvard, Brandeis, Skidmore and Burlington journeyed to campus on Saturday, Oct. 5 to participate in the Harry Potter-inspired sport.

Food trucks serving tacos, Ethiopian cuisine and ice cream assembled by the Quidditch fields. One booth produced butterbeer, a popular Harry Potter beverage resembling butterscotch. Children could take part in Quidditch workshops, observe potions demonstrations and have their faces painted.

A spectacle of such magnitude was certainly appropriate for Middlebury, considering it is the birthplace of quidditch.

In 2005, students Xandel Manshel '09 and Alex Benepe '09 began playing the first games of Quidditch to fill their Sundays. Consistent with the "Harry Potter" universe, they donned towels as capes and carried broomsticks between their legs.

The gender-inclusive sport quickly expanded to intramurals on campus, and once word reached other colleges, those schools created their own teams as well. CBS News, the Wall Street Journal and USA Today even captured the game's rising popularity, which in turn, accelerated its growth. Since 2007, teams from across the world have participated in the Quidditch World Cup.

While unofficial and much smaller in size, the Middlebury Quidditch Festival offers players the opportunity to visit the hallowed grounds that gave birth to the sport. It's been 14 years since Quidditch was founded on Battell Beach, but the keys to winning the game have always remained the same.

A good Quidditch team possesses speed, physicality, and, most importantly, teamwork. Confined within a 60- by 36-yard pitch, two teams of six must gain as many points as possible by kicking or throwing a volleyball, known as a "quaffle," into one of three hoops located at the opposite end of the field. Getting the quaffle through a hoop earns 10 points.

Doing so is more difficult than it sounds.

Each team carries a keeper to guard the hoops and three chasers, who are the only players allowed to handle the quaffle. The quaffle isn't the only ball in the mix; three dodgeballs, or bludgers, can be picked up and thrown at opposing players. Only two players per team, called beaters, can use bludgers. Any player struck by a bludger must run back and touch their defending hoop. If that player is holding the quaffle, then the quaffle must be dropped.

Finally, each team has one player, called a seeker, who must chase and grab a yellow Velcro tail, attached to a runner called a snitch. Snitches are released at the 15th minute of the game. Catching the snitch gains 30 points and ends the match.

Middlebury won all its games at the festival in group play. The blue and white downed RPI (120–90) in its first match, UVM (190–70) in the second, and Harvard (160–100) in its last. In all three games, Middlebury seized victory by taking the snitch.

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Quidditch — invented by "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling — was first played at Middlebury in 2005.

Score Board

Brandeis	220	120	Skidmore
Burlington	90	110	Brandeis
Skidmore	0	180	RPI
RPI	130	50	Burlington
Skidmore	70	140	Burlington
RPI	170	50	Brandeis

RPI	170	100	UVM
Middlebury	120	90	RPI
Harvard	150	100	UVM
Middlebury	160	100	Harvard
UVM	70	190	Middlebury
Harvard	90	100	RPI

Middlebury's most lethal performance would come against Brandeis in the tournament semifinals. Brandeis maintained the best record in the second pool of quidditch teams, but was not as dominant, only winning two of three games.

The hosts began by scoring seven unanswered goals, or 70 points. Middlebury maintained a clear height advantage at the chaser positions, enabling it to attack Brandeis' hoops creatively. Long passes connected across the pitch, which on several occasions set up the Panthers for easy fastbreaks and lay-ups.

Offense, however, only presents half the story.

"Throughout the match, we maintained very consistent blunger control, which allowed us to effectively repel their offense and bolster our own," Sam Lyons '21 said.

Brandeis would only score one goal, while the Panthers would respond with five more. By the 18th minute, the score was 130–10 Middlebury. The semifinal ended once Brandeis caught the snitch, settling the match at 130–40.

"Our semifinal game against Brandeis was just a display of how well our team can play when we are all communicating and mentally on the same page," Ian Scura '19.5 said. "I also think our team just really hit our groove by the end of the day, and people were finding the right cuts."

Because the tournament was running behind schedule and Middlebury's championship opponent, RPI, faced a long drive home, the two teams agreed to play a time-capped 15 minute match. The time-cap prevented the possibility of snitches and seekers from entering the game.

The two schools fought a tough, back-and-forth battle in which the scoring deficit never grew larger than 20 points. RPI's chasers speedily attacked Middlebury's zone and boasted competitive length. As a result of their scrappiness. players from both teams collided several times in front of the hoops. Defensively, crucial blocks and turnovers were made on both ends. The game ended at 50–50.

> "Our semifinal game against Brandeis was just a display of how well our team can play when we are all communicating and mentally on the same page."
> Ian Scura '19.5

"Because the classic is an unofficial tournament, at the end of the day, what we're really all there for is to play Quidditch and have fun, and I think the 'final' embodied that spirit as well as a fully competitive game would have," co-captain Abraham Beningson '21 said.

"I would have liked to see how we would have fared against RPI, but we've had that opportunity at official tournaments recently and will have it again soon," he added.

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

In Quidditch, each team has one seeker on the roster. A seeker's responsibility is to grab a yellow velcro tail attached a runner called a snitch. Successfully grabbing the tail awards the players' team 30 points and ends

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

To score points, a team must kick or throw a volleyball called a "quaffle" through one of three hoops on the opponent's end of the pitch. Only three players, called chasers, can handle the quaffle.